

# Wabash Plain Dealer

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WEDNESDAY,  
MAY 5, 2021

\$3

Shining light on Wabash County since 1859.

Tomorrow's weather 63 | 40



Pulse  
of Wabash

## Seeking sports stringers

Do you have a passion for writing, photography and local sports? The Wabash Plain Dealer is now accepting applications for paid stringers for the upcoming spring sports season. To apply, email your writing and photography clips, cover letter, resume and list of references to rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.

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## Salamonie Preschool offers 'B is for Buds and Blooms'

Preschool-age children and their adults are invited to Salamonie Preschool's "B is for Buds and Blooms" from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, May 5 at Salamonie Interpretive Center located in Lost Bridge West State Recreation Area, 3691 S. New Holland Road, Andrews. The program fee is \$2 per

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## Meet new WCS superintendent Amy Sivley

Public hearing set for Wednesday for the public to provide input on the proposed contract

By ROB BURGESS

Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

Lakeview Middle School principal Amy Sivley may be new to Wabash City Schools (WCS) and the role of superintendent itself, but she is no stranger to educational leadership.

Sivley has 27 years of public education experience and will assume her superintendent responsibilities on Thursday, July 1 after the WCS board selected her for the role late last month.

Sivley began her career in education as a business teacher at Bluffton High School and has held various administrative positions with Warsaw Community Schools for most of the past 17 years. Those roles include assistant middle school principal and athletic director, Gateway Education Center principal, chief accountability officer and director of human resources.

"I do feel like I have a lot of experiences that will help me in this new role," said Sivley,

during a phone interview last week. "The three years at the central office here in Warsaw obviously gave me a glimpse into what it's like being a district leader. I have a very good relationship with the superintendent and assistant superintendent here in Warsaw."

Sivley said she chose to return to Lakeview Middle School six years ago. "This was the building I started my administrative career in and just really had a passion to return because of the relationships I had in this building and wanting to do what I could do to help improve it," said Sivley.

Sivley holds a bachelor of science in business education degree from Ball State University, a master of science in educational leadership from Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne and an education specialist degree in educational leadership from Ball State University. She is currently working toward her doctorate of educational leadership from Ball State University.

Sivley said the WCS mission statement — which states that it "provides a relevant and rigorous education, founded upon relationships,

See SIVLEY, page A4



Provided photo

Amy Sivley has 27 years of public education experience and will assume her superintendent responsibilities on Thursday, July 1 after the WCS board selected her for the role late last month.



Provided photo

Pendy Selking "will present a walk through history with 10 historic outfits" created and worn by the famed Indiana naturalist and author at noon Tuesday, May 11 at 770 W. Hill St.

## Take a walk through history through the outfits of Gene Stratton-Porter

Hoosier naturalist, author to be honored at May's Woman's Clubhouse luncheon

By ROB BURGESS

Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

This month's Woman's Clubhouse luncheon and program, "Gene Stratton-Porter Comes Home," will offer a unique opportunity to explore history through fashion.

Pendy Selking "will present a walk through history with 10 historic outfits" created and worn by the famed Indiana naturalist and author at noon Tuesday, May 11 at 770 W. Hill St., said Ellen Stouffer of the Woman's Clubhouse.

Selking has previously

spoken at the Limberlost State Historic Site, Johnny Apple Seed Festival and other Indiana museums.

The Woman's Clubhouse itself has a special connection to Stratton-Porter.

Stouffer said their formal dining room holds Stratton-Porter's dining table, which she designed and owned, and a full collection of her writings.

Stratton-Porter was born in the Hopewell neighborhood northeast of Lagro, as local historian Pete Jones has written several times for the Plain Dealer.

"Born Geneva Stratton in 1863, she was the author of books that sold millions of copies, and her name was all but a household word in the early 20th century," said



Provided photo by the Indiana Historical Society

The Indiana Historical Society collection includes candid photographs of Stratton-Porter and her family.

See CLUBHOUSE, page A4

## National Day of Prayer events scheduled in county

Several observances set for various locations around the county Thursday

By ROB BURGESS

Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

Local people of faith will have several opportunities

to participate in the annual National Day of Prayer (NDOP) events set for this week.

In the northern part of the

county, a National Day of Prayer service will be held from noon to 12:50 p.m. Thursday, May 6 at the North Manchester Police and Fire Department building on the front lawn at 709 W. Main St., North Manchester.

"Everyone is invited," said

Victory Christian Fellowship Pastor Tim Morbitzer. "Join with local pastors, congregations and communities as we pray."

In Wabash, a pair of celebrations have been planned for the day, first from 12:10 to 12:50 p.m. on the lawn of

the Wabash County Courthouse, and again at 6:30 p.m. at the Wabash City Park Pavilion, said Angela Penix.

Penix said the guest speaker will be Indiana Statehouse Chaplain Matthew

See EVENTS, page A4



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LOCAL BRIEFS

Poole's to celebrate the opening of new Performance Market

Grow Wabash County will be hosting a grand opening ribbon-cutting ceremony at 10:30 a.m. Friday, May 7 at Poole's Performance Market, 1315 Cass St., according to project manager for marketing and events Chelsea Boulrisse.

Poole's Performance Market, previously known in the past as Cathy's Natural Market and INGUARD Health, is putting their spin on the health food grocery store. In addition to keeping the daily lunch specials made popular by its predecessor, Poole's has expanded its menu to include protein smoothies, acai bowls and even protein cold brew.

"The community is en-

couraged to celebrate the grand opening and take a look at the new and popular features at Poole's Performance Market to fit all your health-food needs," said Boulrisse.

The store also has plans to expand its produce section and implement a deli section featuring meats and cheeses from their sister store, Poole's Meat Market.

"We are excited to continue the same great products from our predecessor along with some new products and services from our sister store," said owner Hannah Arrendale. "We are also very excited to offer Wabash Performance meal prep, designed to help you achieve the healthiest happiest version of yourself. Each meal will be chef-prepared, offered in a keto line

as well as a macro-management line consisting of only the highest quality macronutrients."

— Staff report

VFW Post No. 286 plans fish fry for Friday

The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post No. 286 has planned a fish fry from 4 to 7 p.m. Friday, May 7 at 3678 W. Old 24, according to Dan Ford.

The menu will include hand beer-battered fish, a choice of baked beans or pasta salad, coleslaw and hush puppies.

The cost will be \$9 per person. It will be open to the public. Carryout will be available.

For more information, call 260-563-2463.

Wabash Marketplace releases First Friday details for May

STAFF REPORT

Organized by Wabash Marketplace, First Friday takes place in downtown Wabash from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday, May 7 in downtown Wabash, according to executive director Andrea Zwiebel.

"This free event features downtown shopping, food, live music and kids' activities," said Zwiebel.

First Friday in May will celebrate graduating seniors and senior adults.

BABE of Wabash County will hold a ribbon-cutting at 5 p.m. at 88 W. Hill St.

It will be the Eclectic Shoppe's sixth anniversary, featuring live music with Kyle Johnson.

The Purdue Extension Wabash County will have an outdoor booth at the Wabash Museum, with demonstrations by educators.

The Wabash County Museum will be open until 6 p.m.

to members only. Free "Museum on the Go" take-home craft kits will be available.

The Welcome Center at Visit Wabash County will feature an art reception for Penny French-Deal.

Charley Creek Inn will feature Dakota Parker in the Courtyard from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Free cupcakes in honor of the 101th Anniversary will be available.

Trolley No. 85 will be running. Catch a ride at Veteran's Plaza, Eagles Theatre, The Depot, Paradise Spring Park, Wabash County Museum parking lot, BABE of Wabash County and White Rock Recreation at Riverfront Plaza.

One person will win a gift basket provided by Wabash Marketplace. To enter, fill out the "Gift Basket Giveaway" section of the First Friday Guide to nominate a mom. Guides are available at businesses throughout

Downtown Wabash. The gift basket in May includes a \$50 gift card to Market Street Grill and Wabash merchandise.

"Celebrate a special mom in your life," said Zwiebel.

The following businesses will have \$100 tabs open for the class of 2021.

"Be one of the first in the \$100 tab limit, and your order at these following businesses could be free," said Zwiebel.

A student ID may be required at:

- Modoc's Market (Sponsored by Hoosier Chiropractic)
- Ohh My! Cakes (Sponsored by Wabash Marketplace)
- Pizza King (Sponsored by Visit Wabash County)
- Downtown Nutrition (Sponsored by Bellazo)
- Candy Shoppe at Charley Creek Inn (Sponsored by Eclectic Shoppe)

Gov. vetoes bill limiting health orders

By TOM DAVIES  
Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Indiana's governor vetoed a bill on Tuesday that would limit the authority of county or city health departments by allowing local elected officials to block public health orders issued during emergencies.

Republican Gov. Eric Holcomb wrote in a veto message that the ability of local health officials to act quickly has been critical to the state's COVID-19 response. The governor said he believed it was "prudent to avoid any unnecessary disruption or wholesale changes to our existing local public health authorities."

"Right now it is critical that we maintain our local health expertise, flexibility and all the tools needed to respond," Holcomb said. "We must not do anything that jeopardizes this as our heroic local health officials remain critical in the months to come as we accelerate our recovery and work to vaccinate many more Hoosiers."

Legislative Republican supporters said the bill was meant to provide a "check and balance" protecting the rights of business owners following complaints about COVID-19 orders closing or limiting businesses.

The bill would require any local public health orders more stringent than one issued

by the governor go before elected county commissioners or city councils for approval. Holcomb's coronavirus-related executive orders over the past year have allowed local officials to establish tougher regulations — an authority he frequently cited in defending his decisions lifting various statewide travel, crowd size and business restrictions.

The state Senate voted 37-12 and House members voted 65-29 in favor of the bill two weeks ago. Indiana legislators can override Holcomb's veto by a simple majority vote in both chambers, with that action potentially taking place during a one-day meeting next week.

Republican Senate President Pro Tem Rodric Bray said in a statement that he believed the bill "created another productive check and balance on our government." Bray said he would discuss the veto with fellow Republican senators for before deciding what to do next.

Legislative Republicans voted last month to override Holcomb's veto of another bill giving themselves more authority to intervene during statewide emergencies declared by the governor. Holcomb has filed a lawsuit against the Legislature, arguing that new law violates the state constitution.

Some medical and health organizations opposed the county health authority bill, arguing

against shifting authority away from public health professionals to local elected officials who largely don't have such experience. Supporters say it only applies to local actions issued under an emergency and not to orders issued against an individual business or resident over matters such as health code violations.

Democratic state Rep. Rita Fleming of Jeffersonville, an obstetrician and gynecologist, called the bill "dangerous" during debate in the House. She compared allowing local elected officials to block county health orders to those officials allowing a dangerous bridge to remain open over the objections of engineers because of complaints from businesses.

"They may be virtuous people but they're not epidemiologists," Fleming said of elected officials. "They don't understand vectors and incubation periods."

The bill would also give local elected officials hiring authority over local health officers and create a procedure allowing the public to appeal bill giving themselves more authority to intervene during statewide emergencies declared by the governor. Holcomb has filed a lawsuit against the Legislature, arguing that new law violates the state constitution.

Some medical and health organizations opposed the county health authority bill, arguing

Indiana State Fair returning after 2020 pandemic cancellation

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — The Indiana State Fair will return with some changes this summer, a year after the coronavirus pandemic forced its cancellation, fair officials announced Tuesday.

This year's fair will run from July 30-Aug. 22 and be focused on the theme of "celebrating all things Indiana and the resiliency of the Hoosier Spirit," fair officials said in a news release.

This year's state fair will add a weekend to the front end of

the fair's schedule, while the fairgrounds will be closed on Mondays and Tuesdays each week of its run.

"We know this year's State Fair may look a little different, and we are prepared for that. By adding an additional weekend, it allows us to spread Fair attendance across a new weekend," Cindy Hoye, executive director of the Indiana State Fair Commission, said in a news release.


Fair officials said they have been actively working with

the Indiana Department of Health on planning the fair's return a year after it was called off during the pandemic.


Hoye said fair organizers "are confident that with our 250+ acre, mostly outdoor campus we will be able to host our Fair late this summer."

She said the fair plans to bring back the fairgoers' favorite attractions, including carnival rides, unusual fair food, 4-H competitions and free entertainment.


5-Day Weather Summary




Wednesday  
Few Showers  
60 / 41




Thursday  
Chance T-storms  
63 / 40



Friday  
Partly Cloudy  
62 / 42




Saturday  
Few Showers  
61 / 51




Sunday  
Showers Likely  
69 / 52

Sun and Moon


Today's sunset ..... 8:41 p.m.  
Tomorrow's sunrise ..... 6:37 a.m.




New  
5/11



First  
5/19



Full  
5/26



Last  
6/2

Detailed Local Outlook

Today we will see partly cloudy skies with a 60% chance of showers, high temperature of 60°, humidity of 47%. North wind 9 to 14 mph. Expect partly cloudy skies tonight with an overnight low of 41°. Southeast wind 1 to 11 mph.



Provided photo

Prints, notecards, and postcards of her newest creation titled "Gems of Wabash County" will be for sale during the event.

Art reception honoring Penny French-Deal to be held at Visit Wabash County

Event set to last 5-8 p.m. Friday at Welcome Center

STAFF REPORT

Visit Wabash County will be hosting an Art Reception honoring local artist Penny French-Deal on the completion of the latest painting made exclusively for Visit Wabash County, according to marketing manager Whitney Millspaugh.

The reception is open to the public and will be held from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday, May 7 during First Friday at the Visit Wabash County Welcome Center at 221 S. Miami St.

Prints, notecards, and postcards of her newest creation titled "Gems of Wabash County" will be for sale during the event.

"Growing up on a farm in Indiana is what first inspired French-Deal to begin the lifelong pursuit of capturing her surroundings," said Millspaugh. "She creates work of rhythmic depth with an emotional stake which is portrayed through her new piece that includes some of her favorite, as well as the most iconic, places in Wabash County. Popular locations in the painting such as the Wabash County Courthouse, the Stockdale Mill, 13-24 Drive-In and many more were beautifully created using oils."

Millspaugh said during the reception, French-Deal will be available to chat with about her story and inspiration behind the painting. The finished piece of art will be on display to the public for the first time during the event, and hosted light refreshments and libations will be available.

"As someone who grew up

in Wabash County, I was very pleased that I was approached with the idea of creating a painting that would represent our county, and it is exciting to see so much energy being targeted towards promoting what we have to offer to current citizens, visitors and possible future citizens," said French-Deal.

French-Deal said the painting would be quite different if it were created at another time.

"At the time that I created the 'Gems of Wabash County' painting, I knew that I wanted to represent industry, agriculture, nature, landmarks, education, entertainment, the four seasons, and the spirit of the people who live here," said French-Deal.

Millspaugh said French-Deal spent several months traveling the county, taking pictures for reference photos and then spent more time returning to specific locations to capture different lighting, like between sunrise and sunset.


"Such excursions brought great pleasure to me. If you have not visited each of these locations, I hope the painting inspires you to explore our county in more depth. Thank you, Visit Wabash County, for entrusting me to create this painting for you," said French-Deal.

18" x 14" prints of French-Deal's "stunning" "Gems of Wabash County" painting are available for pre-purchase for \$40 in advance of the reception by visiting visitwabash-county.com and clicking on "Purchase Gems of Wabash Co. Print," calling 260-563-7171 or stopping in the Visit Wabash County Welcome Center.

Stop by the Open House Art Reception at the Visit Wabash County Welcome Center to pick up your preordered print and meet local artist Penny French-Deal. If you are unable to make the reception but still want to preorder a print, you may pick it up after May 7th at the Visit Wabash County Welcome Center. Notecards and postcards with the "Gems of Wabash County" print will be available for purchase at the reception as well.

"French-Deal holds a degree in Interior Design from Indiana University and has studied at the Fort Wayne Art Institute," said Millspaugh. "Inspiration comes from her travels throughout the United States and Europe as well as her fascination of everyday experiences. In the fall of 2019, she traveled to Giverny, France to spend a week painting in the gardens of impressionist artist, Claude Monet. Upon her return, she immediately spent the next five months replicating the 100-year-old hand-painted design of the ceiling of the ballroom in the Eagles Theatre. She has exhibited nationally and internationally, and her work can be found in private, corporate, museum, and university collections throughout the United States and Europe. Her chosen home and studio are in North Manchester, Indiana. She manages her gallery, French-Deal Fine Art in Roanoke, Indiana where she works to bring all viewers the beauty of presence and a place to step inside her paintings."

For more information, email brooke@visitwabash-county.com or call 260-563-7171.



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# Obituaries

## The power and potential of women

On the Feast of St. Catherine of Siena, the 14th-century saint, I was surrounded by Dominican friars, priests who have dedicated their lives to God. Remembering her, we sang: “No earthly pleasure, bodily adornment, nor fleshly beauty, satisfied your longing; every enticement to a life unholy, always avoiding.”



One of the remarkable things about Catherine, which may be lost on many, is that she wasn’t a religious sister. She was a laywoman who found true joy by seeing her life as a gift from God to give back to Him, every day. She realized that true freedom lies in obedience to God’s will. Humble perseverance was her way, encouraging people of all states of life – and even a pope.

The friars offered me a little window into their lives, as they prayed vespers in their priory chapel – just yards from St. Patrick’s parish church, where there is a shrine to St. Margaret of Castello, a newly canonized saint. She was born blind in the late 13th century, with a severe spinal curvature. Her noble parents were horrified by her disabilities and believed it would have been better had she never been born. Margaret spent years of her childhood locked away in the house chapel so she could not be seen. Being near the most sacred part of the house, the suffering made her contemplative. Ultimately abandoned by her parents, she would become a beggar, but then was taken in by some locals filled with a spirit of charity. She grew up to challenge those who considered themselves holy and served the outcasts – people discarded by society, as she was.

My time at St. Patrick’s coincided with some online discussion of an article from the Religion News Service about barring women from church leadership roles. It began: “Going to church is generally touted as good for the soul. But there is also evidence church attendance can be good for your health – unless, that is, you are a woman at a

church that bars women from preaching or other leadership roles.” Religion is essential for women and men alike, to be sure. But I don’t need to be a priest to be nourished by the Catholic Church, despite all its imperfections and sinful abuses. Because Christianity isn’t about sin, scandal, mistakes and missed opportunities; it’s about Jesus Christ.

What I’m struck by, after my near half-century of lived Catholicism, is how the Church exalts women. Among many other examples, there was the message to all the women of the world issued by Pope Paul VI at the end of the Second Vatican Council, and reissued by Pope Benedict XVI: “At this moment when the human race is undergoing so deep a transformation, women impregnated with the spirit of the Gospel can do so much to aid mankind ... Women of the entire universe, whether Christian or non-believing, you to whom life is entrusted at this grave moment in history, it is for you to save the peace of the world.”

Now, you could tell me that’s too much pressure, but it may just be the healthiest thing ever said about women. It’s a challenge to both women and men, to live with an appreciation that we need each other and our gifts.

That a woman can’t be a priest is not an impediment to sanctity – or health, for goodness’ sake. Look to women like Catherine and Margaret and see the boundless possibilities for a woman’s life in the Church. They are two laywoman who continue to lead today. And they are so far from alone in what we call the communion of the saints, or cloud of witnesses. Maybe we religious believers should just start actually living our faith? That might just be a Godsend for those who have been made to feel like unwanted burdens.

*Kathryn Jean Lopez is senior fellow at the National Review Institute, editor-at-large of National Review magazine and author of the new book “A Year With the Mystics: Visionary Wisdom for Daily Living.” She is also chair of Cardinal Dolan’s pro-life commission in New York. She can be contacted at klopez@nationalreview.com.*

### Marvin Blocher

March 30, 1948 – April 29, 2021

Marvin Blocher, 73, North Manchester, died April 29, 2021. Marvin was born in Laketon on March 30, 1948. Marvin is survived by his wife, Taphie Blocher; sons, Andrew (Shana) and Benji (Aimee) Blocher; brothers, Joe (Bonnie) and Max (Sandra) Blocher; sister, Ruthie (David) Brubaker; grandchildren, Paige (Dakota) Goldwood, Kelsey



Bowers, Conor and Lace Blocher; great-grandson, Kingston Bowers. Visitation Thursday, May 6, 2021 from 2-5 and 6-8 p.m. at McKee Mortuary, 1401 S.R. 114 West, North Manchester. Funeral services will be Friday, May 7, 2021 at 11 a.m. with visitation at 10 at McKee Mortuary. Arrangements are entrusted to McKee Mortuary.

### Audrey M. Martin

Aug. 26, 1922 – May 1, 2021

Audrey M. Martin, 98, North Manchester, died May 1, 2021. The youngest of Elmer and Elva (Meyers) Christner’s ten children, Audrey was born on Aug. 26, 1922 in Silver Lake, Indiana. Audrey is survived by her daughters, Judy Coleman and Jo Ellen Monce; grandchildren, Karrie (David) Coleman, Janelle (Matthew) Sepsey, Jill (Ryan) LoMona-

co, Hollie (Jeff) Felgar, Martin (Jody) Monce, and Lindsay (Andy) Deming; and eight great-grandchildren. A private graveside service will be held at a later date at Oaklawn Cemetery, 600 Beckley Street, North Manchester, Indiana. The family of Audrey M. Martin has entrusted McKee Mortuary with final arrangements.

### Etta Ulrey

June 17, 1913 – May 1, 2021

Etta Ulrey, 107, North Manchester, died May 1, 2021. Born on June 17, 1913 in Minot, North Dakota, Etta was the daughter of Simon and Lucy Blocher. Etta is survived by her sister, Lydia Kinzie; two step-grandchildren, Steven Ulrey and Jo Beth (Steve) Swisher; two step-great-grandchildren, Lisa Warmuth and Matthew

Schilling. Visitation Tuesday, May 4, 2021 from 2-5 and 6-8 p.m. at North Manchester Old German Baptist Brethren Church, 12546 North S.R. 13, North Manchester. Funeral services will begin Wednesday, May 5, 2021 at 10 a.m. at North Manchester Old German Baptist Brethren Church. Arrangements are entrusted to McKee Mortuary.

### Juanita Pearl

Jan. 3, 1928 – May 2, 2021

Juanita Pearl Sunday, 93, Denver, passed away at 5:10 a.m. on Sunday, May 2, 2021, at her residence. Born Jan. 3, 1928, in Peru, Indiana, she was the daughter of Fred E. and Loree Helen (Howell) McGuire. On Sept. 6, 1947, in Bloomington, Indiana, she was married to her childhood sweetheart, John E. Sunday, and

he preceded her in death on Jan. 31, 2007. Funeral services will be held at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, May 5, 2021, at McClain Funeral Home, Denver, Indiana. Visitation will be from 3-5 p.m. at the funeral home. Memorial contributions may be made to Westlawn Cemetery Association.

### Michael T. ‘Mikey’ Booth, Sr.

April 19, 1976 – April 28, 2021

Michael T. “Mikey” Booth, Sr., 45, a lifetime resident of Wabash, passed away at 10 p.m. on Wednesday, April 28, 2021 at his residence. He was born on April 19, 1976 in Wabash to Paul E. and Sandra S. (McGinnis) Booth. There will be a service, held at a later date, at the Wabash Moose Lodge #1195, to

be announced later. McDonald Funeral Homes, 231 Falls Avenue, Wabash, Indiana 46992, has been entrusted with Mike Booth’s arrangements. Preferred memorials are to McDonald Funeral Homes to help offset funeral expenses. Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.mcdonaldfunerals.com.

### Nancy J. Tiger

April 21, 1927 – April 30, 2021

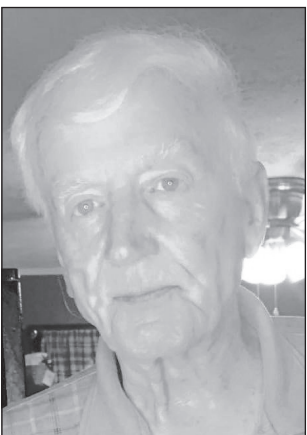
Nancy J. Tiger, 94, North Manchester, died April 30, 2021. Nancy was born to Samuel and Esther (Adams) McCullough on April 21, 1927 in West Middlesex, Pennsylvania.

Nancy is survived by her son, Paul (Kimberle) Tiger; daughters, Deborah (Jerry) Elliott, Melissa (Robert) Laney, and Cheryl (Brian) Budnik; brother, Robert (Marlene) McCullough;

### Max David Parson

Aug. 5, 1946 – May 2, 2021

Max David Parson, 74, of Wabash, Indiana, died 2:24 am, Sunday, May 2, 2021, at his daughter’s home in LaFontaine. He was born on Aug. 5, 1946, in Wabash, to Verlin and Ruby (Sutton) Parson. He married Edna Louise (Dials) Lawson Parson in Wabash, on Aug. 5, 1995, she died Nov. 22, 2010. Max was a truck driver for North Central Co-Op, transporting feed and fertilizer for 22 years until his retirement in 2015. After retirement, he was a part time driver for CFS in Urbana, Indiana, for two years. Max was a member of the Wabash Moose Lodge and attended Christian Heritage Church. He enjoyed working on automobiles, bowling, cook-outs, driving semi, going to tractor pulls and car shows, fishing, and especially enjoyed spending time with his family. Max also enjoyed shooting hoops with his grandchildren and attending their birthday parties. He faithfully loved Sunday dinners and checking on the cows at his daughter, Sherrie’s house, and his pride and joy was his 1985 Scottsdale truck.



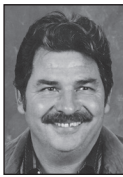
He is survived by four children, David Alan Parson of Andrews, Indiana, Vickie Lynn Parson of Huntington, Indiana, Sherrie (Jay) Murphy of LaFontaine, and Jamie (Amber) Parson of Argos, Indiana, two step-children, Amy Maples of Huntington, and Scott Lawson, Sr. of Wabash, 20 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren, sister, Joyce Emrick of Wabash, and brother, Tony Parson of North Manchester, Indiana. He was also preceded in death by his parents, two brothers, Bob Parson, and Dean Parson, sister, Carol Owens, and grandson, David Alan Parson, Jr.

Funeral services will be 2 pm, Wednesday, May 5, 2021, at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, 1241 Manchester Avenue, Wabash, with Pastor Tim Prater officiating. Burial will be in Memorial Lawns Cemetery, Wabash. Friends may call 12:30 pm – 2 pm, at the funeral home. Preferred memorial is Christian Heritage Church. The memorial guest book for Max may be signed at www.grandstaff-hentgen.com.

### Charles Philip Reahard

Dec. 27, 1936 – April 28, 2021

Charles Philip Reahard, 84, of Urbana, Indiana, died at 12:25 pm, Wednesday, April 28, 2021, at his home. He was born Dec. 27, 1936, in Wabash County, Indiana, to George F. Reahard and Dollie Blanche (Reason) Meredith.



Charles served in the Indiana National Guard for three years. He married Kathleen Davis in North Manchester on Sept. 11, 1982. Charles drove truck for Pierceton Trucking 29 years, retiring in 1999. He also worked for Cripe Motorhome, Columbia City Steel Company, and Bob Hauptert. He attended the Sweetwater Assembly of God in North Manchester, and belonged to the Moose Lodge in Wabash. Charles enjoyed riding motorcycles, motorcycle and stock car racing, mowing grass and working. He is survived by his wife, Kathleen Reahard of Urbana, five children, Helen Denise (Dennis) Baer of

North Manchester, Mona Lisa Dalton of Huntington, Indiana, Charles Christopher (Kathy) Reahard of Lebanon, Indiana, Bobby Dean (Lisa) Bigham and David Allen Peden, Jr., both of Urbana, nine grandchildren, Justin Reahard, Kelly Reahard, Katy Baer, Eric Baer, Tocarra Hubley, Zackery Reahard, Corey Dalton, Dakota Bigham and River Bigham, 13 great grandchildren, and brothers and sister, George Reahard and Anthony B. (Patricia) Reahard, both of Wabash, and Marsha Lynn Reahard of Florida. He was preceded in death by his parents, daughter, Joni Lynn Reahard, and one great grandchild. Family will receive friends from 3-4 pm Friday May 7, 2021 at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, 1241 Manchester Avenue, Wabash. The memorial guest book for Charles may be signed at www.grandstaff-hentgen.com.

# The year when clergy stress zoomed to a new highlights

When training pastors and chaplains, educators frequently stress the need for boundaries between work and home. Clergy need – somehow – to find “personal” time, along with face-to-face contact with loved ones. That challenge became more difficult in the age of smartphones, texting and emails, noted Marlon C. Robinson, pastoral care director at AdventHealth in Manchester, Kentucky, and a specialist in marriage and family therapy. Then came the COVID-19 lockdowns, and the pressures on clergy zoomed to a whole new level. “Everything came home, all at once,” said Robinson, reached by telephone. “Pastors were spending more and more time with their families – jammed into one space. But this wasn’t quality time. Everyone was at home, but they were staring at their own phones

### Terry Mattingly



worse, the usual struggles with church leadership and finances were complicated by political warfare and conspiracy theories that literally began to shape how congregations handled worship, pastoral care, education and even efforts to keep sanctuaries clean and safe. Instead of arguing – to cite church clichés – about carpet color or outdated hymnals, the faithful were fighting about whether masks were necessary to save lives or merely “politically correct” virtue signals. Meanwhile, many people

and computer screens. There was no intimacy, and all the pressures of ministry grew even more intense.” To make matters

were sick, and many died, with their pastors and families on the other side of locked hospital or nursing home doors. And it was illegal to have funerals? Attendance dropped, along with offerings. More than a few members vanished. Ministers “are inundated with phone calls, emails, texts, WhatsApp messages, and communications through a host of other platforms,” wrote Robinson in Ministry Magazine. While it’s impossible to know how many will flee the ministry, early research indicates pastors are “experiencing intensified stress levels that ... put them at increased risk for developing a mental illness,” Robinson wrote. “The current crisis makes pastors even more vulnerable to illness on account of traumatic events arising from within their personal and family situations. Clergy members are also at increased risk

because of their repeated exposure to the traumatic information shared by their parishioners.” The bottom line: Pastors are “not superhumans,” noted Thom Rainer, former leader of LifeWay Christian Resources for the Southern Baptist Convention. “They miss their routines. They miss seeing people as they used to do. They would like the world to return to normal, but they realize the old normal will not return.” Some pastors have decided that, while they don’t want to leave ministry altogether, the “current state of negativity and apathy in many local churches” has created a poisoned work environment. “So, they are leaving or getting ready to leave,” noted Rainer at his Church Answers blog. “Criticism against pastors have increased significantly,” wrote Rainer. “One pastor recently shared with me the number of

criticisms he receives are five times greater than the pre-pandemic era. Church members are worried. Church members are weary. And the most convenient target for their angst is their pastor.” Workloads have increased and changed during this time, he added. Clergy are trying to serve the “way they have in the past, but now they have the added responsibilities that have come with the digital world. ... Can the church continue to support the ministries they need to do? Will the church need to eliminate positions? These issues weigh heavily on pastors.” There are no easy solutions, stressed Robinson. It’s clear that denominational leaders must seek improved pastoral care – for their clergy. Pastors need to find “ministry buddies” with whom they can privately share advice,

feedback and peer-to-peer support. Also, studies indicate that exercising three times a week can lessen the risk of emotional exhaustion for clergy. It wouldn’t hurt for them to take long, smartphone-free walks with their spouses. This isn’t a matter of being selfish, stressed Robinson. “If I don’t take care of me, then I’ll have none of me left when I try to take care of other people,” he said. “Self-care is super, super, super important for clergy – whether they’re working in churches, hospitals, the military or anywhere else. ... It’s about taking care of yourself. You have to build that into your life, so that you can do the work that God has called you to do.” Terry Mattingly leads GetReligion.org and lives in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. He is a senior fellow at the Overby Center at the University of Mississippi.



SIVLEY

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to ensure every student is college and career ready for success in the global community” – “really intrigued” her.

“It just really spoke to me,” said Sivley. “Relationships are strong in Wabash City and that’s something that’s important to the job. And the strategic plan, I just saw that and thought it would be a good fit for me.”

Sivley replaces former WCS superintendent Jason Callahan, who left his post in December 2020 after 16 years on the job. In September 2020, Callahan was named one of five new members of the Governor’s Workforce Cabinet by Gov. Eric Holcomb. And, in December 2020, Callahan was appointed as assistant secretary of pathways and opportunities with the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE). Callahan is currently serving in that role in Indianapolis.

One phrase Callahan was known for championing for WCS graduates was what he called the “three Es”: Enrollment in college or higher education, employed at a living wage or enlisted in the military.

Sivley said this mentality fit in perfectly with her vision for WCS.

“That was one thing that I loved because we need to make sure that our students are prepared for their future and every student’s future is going to look different, whether it’s going into the military, whether it’s going straight into employment, or it’s going on to college. They need to be ready for that future. That was another thing that really drew me to this district,” said Sivley.

Sivley said it was important for her to share the district’s successes with parents around the region to attract students to WCS.

“Making a school that kids want to go to and making sure that we’re sharing our story about why our schools are so great are important. And so that’s what’s really going to be part of my focus. We need to make sure our surrounding communities can see all of the great things that we do in Wabash City Schools,” said Sivley. “I think that with students being able to cross boundaries, that is something that schools, we have to attract students. We have to attract families. And if we are increasing student achievement in our district, families are going to want to come to Wabash City.”

Sivley said the challenges inherent in teaching during a pandemic have caused her to focus on making every employee in the district feel valued.

“I think showing that appreciation to all of our staff, not just our teachers, but everybody that made that happen. I think that’s huge,” said Sivley. “Looking at the social and emotional side of it, it has been a stressful year. And so making sure that when we have students, staff, are we feeding their social and emotional side? Because it has been a stressful year. And that starts with just asking, ‘How are you doing?’ I plan to be very visible. I want teachers, custodians, cafeteria ladies, I want them to all know who I am. I want the students to know who I am. Being in buildings is a way that I am going to make sure, ‘Are our people OK?’”

WCS board president Rod Kelsheimer said there are a few steps left before they could vote and finalize Sivley’s hiring. There will be a public hearing at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 5 for the public to provide input on the proposed contract. Kelsheimer said Indiana law calls for them to wait 10 days after the hearing before they can vote on her hiring. He said they plan to do this at their Monday, May 17 board meeting.

“I’m looking forward to getting to know the community, to getting to know the families,” said Sivley. “I’m really excited about this opportunity and honored that I was selected.”

*Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at [rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com](mailto:rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com).*

HEALTH

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school-based programming to “meet the unique needs of school partners and are aligned with state educational initiatives.”

Yeoman said school-based supports can include therapists, school psychologists and skills trainers.

“School-based skills trainers are assigned to schools to support students who have emotional or behavioral difficulties that have a negative impact on academic and social performance in schools,” said Yeoman.

Yeoman said Four County now serves 29 school corporations and provides on-site

services to 105 school buildings.

On Monday, Four County’s director of community and school-based services Krista Catt and vice president of operations Lisa Willis-Gidley said MSD was the first school district in Wabash County to partner with them. Yeoman said both Catt and Willis-Gidley have contributed to the new partnership with MSD.

“Four County continues to strive to serve any school corporations that need mental health support and increased services to ensure social, emotional learning in their corporations,” they said. “We hope to expand to meet community needs moving forward. ... We are

always looking for growth and serving the needs of the youth in our communities.”

Catt and Willis-Gidley said MSD does not pay any fees for services being offered.

“Our services are provided out of medical necessity to our clients and their students, therefore we are working directly with the student’s insurance at no cost to the school. Four County offers additional programming in our school-based model so further funding conversations may occur in the future, however, our mission is to serve students and align with school corporation needs,” they said.

Catt and Willis-Gidley said the most pressing challenge they face is the overall

stigma of mental health and access to care.

“By providing services at the student’s school we take away some of the fear associated with going to a provider’s office. Students are getting mental health support without even needing to leave the classroom or the school campus. This puts them back into the classroom with their teacher quicker so that they can continue to do what they need to do which is learn,” they said.

Catt and Willis-Gidley said their skills trainers work with our clients to develop tools they can use in their daily lives.

“They work directly with the students to identify what works individually for each

of them and how that client or student can implement these changes,” they said. “We take a very client-centered approach to mental health. The client and their families will identify areas of focus. This can vary from learning coping skills, learning how to stay organized, managing behaviors, social emotion support and gaining access to community resources. We also offer masters-level clinicians to work with the clients and students on therapeutic interventions or behavioral modification that can aid in classroom success.”

*Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at [rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com](mailto:rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com).*

CLUBHOUSE

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Jones in March 2020. “In 1886, after attending Wabash High School, she married Charles Darwin Porter, a well-to-do businessman from the Decatur area. The couple took up residence on the edge of the Limberlost Swamp in eastern Indiana, and it was there Gene’s interest in both writing and the serious study of nature

began to blossom. The gift of a camera in 1895 kindled Stratton-Porter’s interest in photographing wildlife and plants, according to the article. She created a makeshift darkroom in a bathroom where she developed and printed amazing pictures of the natural world around her. By 1919 Stratton-Porter was in California, writing and making movies based upon some of her most successful novels. She died in an automobile accident in

Los Angeles in 1924 at the age of 61.”

Jones said in 2017, the Indiana Historical Society noted their large archival collection of Stratton-Porter materials available both online and in the organization’s William H. Smith Memorial Library at the Eugene and Marilyn Glick Indiana History Center at 450 W. Ohio St., Indianapolis. The IHS collection includes candid photographs of Stratton-Porter and her family,

including pictures of her nephew, Donald F. Wilson, who once lived in Wabash. There are letters to and from the author and her sisters, her daughter, and her father, Mark Stratton. The archival collection can be found at [images.indianahistory.org](http://images.indianahistory.org) or items can be used at the Indiana Historical Society.

The Woman’s Clubhouse itself has only re-opened in recent months after being closed for almost a year. The remainder of the 2020

season of monthly programs and luncheons was canceled in May 2020 as the COVID-19 pandemic began to take hold.

Stouffer said to make reservations for this month’s event, reservations may be made by calling Mary Delauter at 260-563-6613 or Carol McDonald at 260-563-2331.

*Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at [rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com](mailto:rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com).*

EVENTS

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Barnes. Penix said participants should bring their lawn chairs and “rally with us for unity in the Wabash community as we affirm the freedom and liberty we have as Americans.”

“We are praying for 500 attendees,” said Penix.

Penix said the theme for this year’s NDOP will be “Lord, Pour out Your Love Life and Liberty,” which inspired by II Corinthians 3:17, which states, “Now the Lord is the Spirit and

wherever the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.”

Penix, who works with the Common Ground Prayer House, 78 W. Hill St., said since they started their ministry 12 years ago, “we have tried to find ways to encourage the community to participate in NDOP.”

“Whether it be to attend the noon event, an evening event or take part in a 24-hour prayer vigil,” said Penix.

Penix said for the last three years they have also planned evening events on NDOP “so that more might have an opportunity to join in corpo-

rate prayer for our nation.”

Penix said during the 2019 NDOP celebration at Legacy Hall, they had between 80 and 90 attend the evening gathering, while there were approximately 12 pastors from the community participating in the event.

“I would say it is geared towards people of faith and any Bible-believing denomination. All are invited to join us,” said Penix.

Penix said they were hoping to have more than ever attend our outdoor evening event at the Wabash City Park this year as Barnes planned to join them.

Wabash County Animal Shelter partnership to pair emerging readers with dogs, cats

The local Literacy for Companionship program will be held on the third Thursday of each month, with the next one scheduled for May 20 at the Wabash County Animal Shelter, 810 Manchester Ave. The time will be split into 30-minute shifts from 4 to 6 p.m., with four children scheduled per session. There is no cost for the program and the parents or guardians will be with the children at all times. For more information, call 260-563-3511.

Manchester University sets in-person graduation ceremonies

Several small, in-person ceremonies are scheduled for Saturday, May 22 in Cordier Auditorium on the North Manchester campus. Graduate and Professional ceremony are at 9 a.m. for Doctor of Pharmacy, Master of Athletic Training, Master of Pharmacogenomics, and the dual degree in pharmacy and pharmacogenomics (Pharm.D. and MS in Pgx). Undergraduate and Master of Accountancy (M.Acct.) ceremonies are in this order: 11:30 a.m. Honors Program, College of Arts and Humanities, M.Acct. and Gilbert College of Business; 2:30 p.m. College of Pharmacy, Natural and Health Sciences; and 4:30 p.m. College of Education and Social Sciences.

Honeywell Summer Arts Camps announced for grades K-12

Registration is open for Honeywell Summer Theatre and Visual Art Camps for students in grades K-12, which begin Monday, June 7, and offer in-person, fully immersive programs led by art and theater teachers and professionals. The two-week Theatre Camps for grades K-5 will take place in the afternoon from Monday, June 7 through Friday, June 18. The three-week Theatre

Camps for sixth through 12th grades will take place in the afternoon from Monday, June 7 through Friday, June 25. The one-week Visual Art Camps will take place in the morning from Monday, June 7 through Friday, June 11. Early-bird registration discounts are available through Friday, April 30: \$60 for the one-week Art Camp and \$75 for multiple weeks of Theatre Camp. After Friday, April 30, registration is \$75 for art and \$90 for theatre. Financial assistance is available. For more information, visit [HoneywellArts.org/camp](http://HoneywellArts.org/camp) or call 260-563-1102.

Pancake Day planned for June 12

The Wabash Kiwanis Club’s Pancake Day 2021 event will take place from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, June 12 at the newly renovated Bruce Ingraham building at the Wabash County Fairgrounds, located just off of Gillen Avenue. Pancakes, with or without blueberries, will be available, along with sausages and drinks. Tickets will be \$8 at the door and \$7 in advance for adults 13 years and older and \$5 at the door and \$4 in advance for children ages 6 to 12 years. Admission for the event will be free for children 5 years and younger. Sponsorship opportunities for businesses for Pancake Day are available by email at [donnasiders@hotmail.com](mailto:donnasiders@hotmail.com) or by calling 260-571-1892. Sponsors would receive complimentary tickets to the event and on-site recognition in exchange for their support for only \$150.

Salamonie to hold Summer Forest Camp

Salamonie Lake will be hosting “a unique outdoor day camp” from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Monday, June 28 to Friday, July 2 at Upper Wabash Interpretive Services, 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews. Children ages 7 to 13 are welcome. Limited space is available. The cost per child is \$60 and \$55 for each additional sibling. Register and pay by Monday, June 14 and save \$10 per child. For more information and registration, call 260-468-2127.

political and ethnic backgrounds in prayer while also encouraging personal repentance and righteousness in the culture. The National Day of Prayer belongs to all Americans and is a day that transcends differences, bringing together citizens to celebrate our most beloved freedom; the freedom to humbly come before God and seek His guidance in prayer,” said Morbitzer.

For more information, visit [www.praywabash.org](http://www.praywabash.org).

*Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at [rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com](mailto:rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com).*

INDOT begins Indiana 13 and 15 Wabash River bridgework

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) has announced bridge maintenance work over the Wabash River on Indiana 13 and Indiana 15 in Wabash. The northbound lanes between Lafontaine Avenue and Miami Street will be closed to traffic. Motorists should use the posted detour of Lafontaine Avenue, Huntington Street and Market Street. The southbound lanes between Fulton Street and Dimension Avenue will be reduced to one lane because of the work. The work is set to wrap up in July.

Indiana 15 lane closures to last through mid-summer

Alternating lane closures are planned for Indiana 15. The work is happening between Indiana 13 and Wedcor Avenue. Widths will be restricted to 13 feet during the project and that loads wider than 13 feet should seek an alternate route using the nearest numbered state, U.S. or interstate routes. The work is scheduled to wrap up by mid-summer.

DivorceCare meets Tuesdays

DivorceCare, a 13-week DVD series sponsored by Wabash Friends Counseling Center, features some of the nation’s foremost Christian experts on topics concerning divorce and recovery, according to group leader Janet Quillen. The support group meets at 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday in the Conference Room in the Wabash Friends Counseling Center, 3563 South State Road 13. Wearing a mask is required when entering. Quillen and members of the group meet for dinner at 5:30 p.m. at Subway, 1812 S. Wabash St., on State Road 15. For more information, call 260-563-8453, 877-350-1658, email [office@wabashfriends.org](mailto:office@wabashfriends.org), call 260-571-5235 or visit [www.divorcecare.org](http://www.divorcecare.org).

*Editor’s note: If you have an upcoming event to submit, please send it by email to [news@wabashplaindealer.com](mailto:news@wabashplaindealer.com) no later than five days before the event itself. Please use complete sentences, Associated Press style and Microsoft Word or PDF file formats.*





Photo by Clay Maxfield / Plain Dealer

Southwood's Zach Sarll competes in the shot put.



Photo by Clay Maxfield / Plain Dealer

Southwood's Marissa Metzger competes Friday.

# Southwood finds success in Titan Relays

Knights placed first overall in a field of seven teams

By CLAY MAXFIELD  
Wabash Plain Dealer Freelance Reporter

Southwood's varsity track and field team took part in the Titan Relays on Friday evening at Taylor High School, where the Knights placed first overall in a field of seven teams.

The Knights finished with 160 points total with the boys ending with 98 points and a first-place finish on their side of the competition while the girls finished third with 62 points.

Afterward, Southwood head coach

Heather Hyden touched on her team's ability to adjust and prepare for a meet that they were unfamiliar with in terms of different relays and team field events.

"They liked running the different relays and competing as a team in the field events," Hyden said. "We spent all Wednesday and Thursday having them practice different hand-offs and just trying to get comfortable with it."

Southwood's boys team began the night with success in the field events as a team of Dawson Filip, Isaiah Sutton and Issac King combined to win first in the high jump. Filip, Isaiah Sutton and Elijah Sutton later claimed first in the long jump as well.

Isaiah Sutton set personal bests in both the high jump and long jump on Friday.

In the distance medley relay, Southwood's Jacob Marlow, Randy Boone, Casey Boardman and Braden Sweet finished in first while Boardman, Boone, Sweet, and Alex Winer took home first in the 4x400 also.

The 4x400 team set a personal best with a time of 3:39.

Boone, Filip, Winer and Elijah Sutton capped off the night's performances from the boys team by placing first in the sprint medley relay with a 1:40 finishing time.

Familiarity or not, Hyden was pleased with how she thought her team competed as a whole.

"I think they did great. In the stuff they're familiar with we had a lot of PRs and the stuff they weren't familiar with they just went after it and had fun. The boys won a lot of their events and the girls are lower

on numbers this year but competed as hard as they could," she said.

The co-ed 4x200 was won with a team comprised of Maggie Ball, Elijah Sutton, Marissa Metzger and Alex Winer.

On the girls side of the competition, the same level of dominance was nearly identical as Carrie Collins, Alaina Winer, Natalie Haycraft and Maggie Ball took home second place while setting a personal record (55.5 seconds) in the 4x100.

Haycraft, Collins, Ball and Amelia Sweet had similar success in the shuttle hurdle after they finished second and Aleia Sweet, Collins, Winer and Metzger set a personal best in their second-place finish of the 4x400.

In the high jump, Maggie Ball, Marissa Metzger, and Aleia Sweet finished second.

Carroll's varsity girls team finished in first place (89) while Eastern High School took home second (66).

With nine seniors filling out the team's roster, Coach Hyden is encouraged with the direction that her team has taken so far this season as they prepare for the Three Rivers Conference Championships on Friday followed by sectionals on Tuesday, May 18 and Thursday, May 20.

"We are senior-heavy this year," Hyden said. "They've been excellent leaders throughout the season to help the underclassmen, show them the ropes and how to perform. They're really starting to hone in on their events. ... I'm hoping come conference that it will relay over to that."

Clay Maxfield, Wabash Plain Dealer freelance reporter, may be reached by email at [sports@wabashplainealer.com](mailto:sports@wabashplainealer.com).

# Manchester's Joseph Powell named HCAC Men's Track Athlete of the Year

Spartans took six individual crowns over the weekend

By DILLON BENDER

The Manchester University outdoor track and field teams compiled a phenomenal effort at the 2021 Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference (HCAC) Championships last weekend.

The men, who led after the first day of the meet, captured a second-place team finish on Saturday afternoon with 161 team points. The women totaled 147 points en route to a second-place finish.

Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology claimed both the men's and women's team crowns this weekend.

Joseph Powell, from Beach Park, Illinois, and Zion Benton High School, was named the HCAC Men's Field Athlete of the Year on Saturday afternoon. Powell finished with a trio of new career bests over the weekend. Joseph placed second in both the high jump and javelin throw with respective marks of 1.80m (5' 10 3/4") and 46.57m (152' 9"). He also placed fifth in the triple jump with a final leap of 12.41m (40' 8 3/4").

The Spartans captured six individual HCAC crowns over the weekend. The Black



Provided photo

Joseph Powell, from Beach Park, Illinois, and Zion Benton High School, was named the HCAC Men's Field Athlete of the Year on Saturday afternoon.

and Gold had 24 podium finish (top 3) while totaling 57 point scoring performances (top 8).

Thomas Richardson, from Ladoga and Southmont High School, brought home the first HCAC individual championship on Friday afternoon. Richardson won the 3000-meter steeplechase with a leading time of 9:31.55. Richardson's time improved upon a personal best set earlier this spring and stands as the sixth-best time in school history in the event.

Enrique Salazar, from Plymouth, capped the first

day of the HCAC Championships by winning the 10,000 meters. Salazar crossed the finish line with a leading time of 31:49.74. His time was also a new personal record in the event and stands as the sixth-best mark in program history. On Saturday, Salazar won the 5,000-meter run, leading the field with a top time of 15:17.73.

Brian Hochstetler, from Elkhart and Concord High School, led a 1-2-3 finish for Manchester in the shot put. Hochstetler won the HCAC title with a leading throw of 14.89m (48' 10 1/4"). Brian

set a new personal best in the event and his mark ranked as the sixth-best mark in the Manchester record books.

Hannah Brubaker, from Goshen and NorthWood High School, was this year's champion in the 5,000-meter run. Brubaker led the field with a final time of 19:16.49.

Lauren Smith, from Anderson and Lapel, captured the final HCAC crown for Manchester, winning the 1,500 meter run with an overall time of 5:08.86.

Dillon Bender is the sports information director for Manchester University.

## SCOREBOARD

MLB					N.Y. Mets (Stroman 3-2) at St. Louis (Kim 1-0), 7:45 p.m.				
AMERICAN LEAGUE					Pittsburgh (Brubaker 2-2) at San Diego (Darvish 3-1), 8:10 p.m.				
East Division					Thursday's Games				
Boston	17	12	.586	—	Milwaukee at Philadelphia, 1:05 p.m.				
Toronto	14	13	.519	2	N.Y. Mets at St. Louis, 1:15 p.m.				
Tampa Bay	15	15	.500	2½	Atlanta at Washington, 4:05 p.m.				
Minnesota	14	14	.500	2½	Arizona at Miami, 6:40 p.m.				
Baltimore	14	15	.483	3					
Central Division					NBA				
Kansas City	16	11	.593	—	EASTERN CONFERENCE				
Chicago	15	12	.556	1	Atlantic Division				
Cleveland	14	13	.519	2		W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	11	16	.407	5	x-Phila.	44	21	.677	—
Detroit	8	21	.276	9	x-Brooklyn	43	22	.662	1
West Division					New York	37	28	.569	7
Oakland	18	12	.600	—	Boston	34	31	.523	10
Houston	15	13	.536	2	Toronto	27	38	.415	17
Seattle	16	14	.533	2	Southeast Division				
Los Angeles	13	14	.481	3½		W	L	Pct	GB
Texas	13	17	.433	5	Atlanta	36	30	.545	—
Monday's Games					Miami	35	30	.538	½
Minnesota 6, Texas 5					Charlotte	31	33	.484	4
Cleveland 8, Kansas City 6					Washington	30	35	.462	5½
Oakland 5, Toronto 4					Orlando	21	44	.323	14½
Baltimore 5, Seattle 3					Central Division				
Tampa Bay 7, L.A. Angels 3						W	L	Pct	GB
Wednesday's Games					Milwaukee	40	24	.625	—
Chicago White Sox (Keuchel 1-1) at Cincinnati (Gray 0-2), 12:35 p.m.					Indiana	30	34	.469	10
Baltimore (Means 3-0) at Seattle (Kikuchi 1-1), 3:40 p.m.					Chicago	26	39	.400	14½
Houston (Garcia 0-3) at N.Y. Yankees (Montgomery 1-1), 7:05 p.m.					Cleveland	21	43	.328	19
Detroit (Mize 1-3) at Boston (Pérez 0-2), 7:10 p.m.					Detroit	19	46	.292	21½
Texas (Yang 0-0) at Minnesota (Thorpe 0-0), 7:40 p.m.					WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Cleveland (Bieber 3-2) at Kansas City (Singer 1-3), 8:10 p.m.					Southwest Division				
Tampa Bay (Yarbrough 1-3) at L.A. Angels (Heaney 1-2), 9:38 p.m.						W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto (Ray 1-1) at Oakland (Bassitt 2-2), 9:40 p.m.					Dallas	36	28	.563	—
Thursday's Games					Memphis	32	32	.500	4
Houston at N.Y. Yankees, 1:05 p.m.					San Antonio	31	33	.484	5
Detroit at Boston, 1:10 p.m.					New Orleans	29	36	.446	7½
Texas at Minnesota, 1:10 p.m.					Houston	16	49	.246	20½
Cleveland at Kansas City, 2:10 p.m.					Northwest Division				
Toronto at Oakland, 3:37 p.m.						W	L	Pct	GB
Tampa Bay at L.A. Angels, 9:38 p.m.					x-Utah	47	18	.723	—
					x-Denver	43	22	.662	4
					Portland	36	29	.554	11
					Oklahoma City	21	44	.323	26
					Minnesota	20	45	.308	27
					Pacific Division				
						W	L	Pct	GB
					x-Phoenix	46	18	.719	—
					x-L.A. Clippers	43	22	.662	3½
					L.A. Lakers	37	28	.569	9½
					Golden State	33	32	.508	13½
					Sacramento	27	37	.422	19
					x-clinched playoff spot				
					Monday's Games				
					Orlando 119, Detroit 112				
					Washington 154, Indiana 141				
					Golden State 123, New Orleans 108				
					Atlanta 123, Portland 114				
					Phila. 106, Chicago 94				
					New York 118, Memphis 104				
					Utah 110, San Antonio 99				
					L.A. Lakers 93, Denver 89				
					Wednesday's Games				
					Boston at Orlando, 7 p.m.				
					Portland at Cleveland, 7:30 p.m.				
					Memphis at Minnesota, 8 p.m.				
					Phila. at Houston, 8 p.m.				
					Phoenix at Atlanta, 8 p.m.				
					Sacramento at Indiana, 8 p.m.				
					Washington at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.				
					New York at Denver, 9 p.m.				
					San Antonio at Utah, 9 p.m.				
					Thursday's Games				
					Chicago at Charlotte, 7 p.m.				
					Brooklyn at Dallas, 7:30 p.m.				
					Washington at Toronto, 7:30 p.m.				
					Atlanta at Indiana, 8 p.m.				
					Memphis at Detroit, 8 p.m.				
					L.A. Lakers at L.A. Clippers, 10 p.m.				
					Oklahoma City at Golden State, 10 p.m.				
					Friday's Games				
					New Orleans at Phila., 7 p.m.				
					Boston at Chicago, 7:30 p.m.				
					Houston at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.				
					Minnesota at Miami, 8 p.m.				
					Orlando at Charlotte, 8 p.m.				
					Cleveland at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.				
					Denver at Utah, 9 p.m.				
					L.A. Lakers at Portland, 10 p.m.				
					New York at Phoenix, 10 p.m.				
					San Antonio at Sacramento, 10 p.m.				







# Opinion

## SPEAK UP

How to contact your legislators:

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B33 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
1-202-224-5623  
<http://young.senate.gov/contact>

**U.S. Sen. Mike Braun, R-Ind.**  
B85 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
202-224-4814  
<http://braun.senate.gov/>

**U.S. Rep. Jackie Walorski, R-District 2**  
419 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
202-225-3915

**State Sen. Andy Zay, R-District 17**  
Indiana Senate  
200 W. Washington St.  
Indianapolis, IN 46204  
1-800-382-9467  
[Senator.Zay@iga.in.gov](mailto:Senator.Zay@iga.in.gov)

**State Rep. Craig Snow, R-District 18**  
Indiana House  
200 W. Washington St.  
Indianapolis, IN 46204  
1-800-382-9841  
[h18@in.gov](mailto:h18@in.gov)

To email any Indiana lawmaker, go to this website: [www.in.gov/cgi-bin/legislative/contact/contact.pl](http://www.in.gov/cgi-bin/legislative/contact/contact.pl)

## LETTERS GUIDELINES

The Wabash Plain Dealer encourages your letters to the editor forum, which is designed to be a forum for exchange of ideas between readers about issues of community importance.

Please sign your letter. Your name will be used with the letter that is published in the Plain Dealer. Your letter will be returned if it is your desire to remain anonymous.

Since we may want to write or call you to verify the letter, we ask that you include your address and telephone number. All our letters to the editor are published in the interest of fair play, so we trust our letter writers will refrain from personal attacks on other persons or groups.

A letter should be less than two pages long, preferably of double-spaced typing.

In order to give everyone an opportunity to participate in this exchange of ideas, please try to limit your letters to one per month per household.

To submit a letter, please write the Wabash Plain Dealer at 99 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992.

Letters also may be hand-delivered to the newspaper office, 99 W. Canal St. The office is open 9-11:30 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you should deliver a letter during non-business hours, a drop slot is located to the left of the front door. Letters may be faxed to 260-563-0816, or email them to [news@wabashplaindealer.com](mailto:news@wabashplaindealer.com) with "Letters to the Editor" in the subject line.

## DAILY SCRIPTURE

Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him.

James 1:12

# Biden's first 100 days brought good policy, compassion and civility

The most important thing President Joe Biden has done during his first 100 days in office is restore dignity and civility to the White House. The significance of this cannot be underestimated.

Gone are the verbal attacks, incoherent rambling, dismissing medical experts, catering to racists and public meanness from the leader of the free world. Gone are the mornings when you wake up to find a federal policy change made by tweet.

Americans now have factual press briefings and compassion in response to tragedies. Biden understands how government works and wants it to work for the people.

Even though Iowa did not grant him our electoral votes, Iowans will benefit from his priorities, policies and plans. We already are benefiting.

When Biden took office, he knew there was nothing more important than getting an infectious disease pandemic under control. Three months later, hospitalizations and deaths are down. All eligible Iowans have access to COVID-19 vaccinations. They can return to work and visited loved ones without being haunted by the fear of death.

Iowans can thank Biden and Democrats in Congress for \$1,400 stimulus payments and other assistance from a \$1.9 trillion pandemic relief program. The majority party, fortunately, did not waste precious time trying to court Republicans, including the five representatives and senators from Iowa.

In many other areas, Biden has set difficult work in motion, even if it will take months or years for his administration to demonstrate their ability to follow through for results.

Assessments have begun of how best to rise to the challenge of slowing our contributions to climate change. Iowa stands to be transformed one way or another, by climate change's effects or by serious action to mitigate it.

Biden is using his executive power to embrace people instead of marginalize them. He established a task force to reunite families separated at the southern border and rescinded a ban on transgender troops in the military. Students and academics from countries including China and Iran will be exempt from remaining travel bans imposed during the pandemic. Those individuals bring needed revenue, expertise and diversity to Iowa colleges.

Because the current president understands the importance of global cooperation and the existential threat of climate change, the United States has rejoined the World Health Organization and the Paris climate accord.

Biden announced all U.S. combat troops will be withdrawn from Afghanistan by Sept. 11. This is welcome and long overdue.

This president wants Americans to have access to health care, which is especially important when COVID-19 can result in hospitalization and lingering illness. He supports the Affordable Care Act – the same law that expanded Medicaid to insure more than 170,000 additional Iowans and pay the providers who care for them.

His administration established a special enrollment period that began in February for people who want to secure health insurance in exchanges created by the ACA. Hundreds of thousands of Americans have signed up so far.

"Health care should be a right, not a privilege in America," Biden said during his address to Congress last week.

Amen to that. Biden has called on Congress to raise the federal minimum wage to \$15 per hour. In the meantime, he did what he could on his own by signing an executive order requiring federal contractors to pay that wage. Those who benefit include maintenance, cleaning and food-service workers.

Reforms to address gun violence also fall to Congress, but Biden directed his administration to tighten restrictions on so-called ghost guns. These lack serial numbers, are largely untraceable, and do not require the typical background check for purchase because they come nearly, but not completely, assembled. Such a "kit gun" was used by the teen who fatally shot two students and injured three others in Santa Clarita, California in 2019.

Because the federal government largely funds and controls safety net programs like Medicaid, Biden can protect Iowans from some misguided ideas being floated by our Republican state lawmakers. For example, his administration has already begun rolling back approvals previously given to states to impose work requirements on Medicaid recipients. It certainly won't allow Iowa to impose them on our most vulnerable people. Biden can and should put an end to privatized Medicaid, too.

New federal rules are in the works to undo a Trump-era rule that banned health providers participating in a federal family planning program from referring patients for abortions. Goodbye to interfering with doctor-patient relationships and pandering to anti-abortion activists.

Biden's actions so far reflect his desire to take care of working families and build a better future for this country. So do the goals he outlined during his Wednesday speech.

Expand access to education. Help families pay for child care. Guarantee family leave to workers. Invest in infrastructure. Reform immigration, which will help this country secure desperately needed workers. Crack down on billionaire tax cheats. Lower prescription drug prices. Strive for equality.

Those ideas should garner support from all Iowans.

*This editorial was first published in the Des Moines Register.*



## Mother's Day: One son's tribute

When Ann Jarvis died on May 9, 1905, her daughter, Anna Reeves Jarvis, began a campaign to honor her mother as a way of celebrating all moms as a group.

On May 12, 1907, she held a memorial service at her late mother's church in Grafton, West Virginia. Within five years, almost every state observed the day, and in 1914 President Woodrow Wilson made the second Sunday in May a national holiday.

**Leo Morris**



But Anna became disillusioned with her creation, because what had begun as a day of sentimental tribute soon became an overly commercialized extravaganza of card sending and gift giving.

"To have Mother's Day the burdensome, wasteful, expensive gift day that Christmas and other special days have become, is not our pleasure," she said in 1920. "If the American people are not willing to protect Mother's Day from the hordes of money schemers that would overwhelm it with their schemes, then we shall cease having a Mother's Day."

So, she spent the last years of her life trying to undo what she had created. Alas, she failed.

Mother's Day in America is now a \$25 billion-a-year holiday, according to 2019 figures from the National Retail Federation, with \$5 billion each spent on jewelry and special outings, and about \$6 billion going for flowers, cards and gift certificates.

For some reason, that story tickles me no end.

Perhaps it is because you can draw whatever lesson you like from it, depending on your needs. If you seek to wallow in your insecurities, you can learn that you should be careful what you wish for. If you want to reinforce your sense of autonomy, you can learn that it's perfectly fine to change your mind and that if you do so, no need to

be shy about it.

I don't know that my mother ever came to regret what she'd wished for, but I'm sure she had moments when she was frazzled to the limit by her decision to have children.

There was the time as a toddler when I almost set the kitchen on fire by playing with matches near the kindling box, and locked her outside. I was too young to understand what fire could do, but I knew precisely what the wrath of a mother could do. Finally persuading me to unlock the door – now, that was some fine parenting.

There was the time a few years later when my cousin Frank and I invented the concept of Frisbee with a coffee can lid, and I stood before my mother, hand to my sliced ear and blood dripping down to my elbow, crying, "It wasn't my fault!"

There was the time in high school when, exasperated by my repeated brushing off of her commands, she said, "I'm telling you for the last time to clean your room." and I replied, "Oh, thank, goodness, I thought you were going to go on about it all day."

Somehow, she made it through the stage when she could only wring her hands and got to the place where she could use them to applaud at my high school graduation, to pull me into a hug when I got back from overseas during the Army, to pick up scissors and cut my articles out of the newspaper when I became a reporter.

I'm not saying my mother was a saint, exactly.

Oh, who am I kidding? Of course, she was a saint. She had to be. She raised me.

And she had to learn on the job. She married at 16, had me at 17, and never read a parenting book or how-to magazine article. She just did the best she could, based on what she learned from the way she was raised, lessons passed down, generation to generation, to her parents.

And she did it with patience, tolerance, forgiveness and a grace that

comes with the territory and cannot be replaced by all the government spending in the world if it is absent.

All those qualities and more are wrapped up in the single word – "nurturing" – that we have used so easily over the years and that our cultural revisionists would so easily dismiss. Everyone needs someone in life to be the nurturer, and forgive my nod to tradition, but I nominate mothers. My father taught me how to be a good man. My mother taught me how to be a better person.

On further thought, I think I know what motivated Anna Reeves Jarvis.

Her mother had tried twice to get a Mother's Day started in the mid-19th Century. One effort, spurred by own experience in losing all but four of her 13 children to the Typhoid fever that raced through Appalachia, was meant to educate women about proper hygiene. The other was to get former Union and Confederate soldiers to meet for reconciliation and was tied to Juliet Ward Howe's unsuccessful push for an international Mother's Peace Day.

So, Anna was trying to honor her mother by carrying on her work. She wanted to make her mother proud, and she then tried to undo her success because she thought it would not live up to her mother's expectations.

I know what I would say to my mother if she were still here, and it's what any mothers still living would like to hear from their children:

"You did all right by me. Thank you. I'll always try to make you proud."

They probably won't even mind if it's in one of those billions of filthy, commercialized cards. Those hordes of money schemers have mothers, too, after all.

*Leo Morris, columnist for The Indiana Policy Review, is winner of the Hoosier Press Association's award for Best Editorial Writer. Morris, as opinion editor of the Fort Wayne News-Sentinel, was named a finalist in editorial writing by the Pulitzer Prize committee. Contact him at [leoedits@yahoo.com](mailto:leoedits@yahoo.com).*

## LETTER

### Virus susceptibility of our Navy

As a former Navy enlisted and officer who served on 13 ships in the 1950s and 1960s, I am very concerned with the preparedness of our ships in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

CAPT. Crozier, the commanding officer of the USS Theodore Roosevelt (TR) was relieved of command because he publicly criticized the Navy's response to the COVID-19 outbreak on his ship. He showed poor judgment by publicizing the event to our potential adversaries who could take advantage of the TR's situation, but his concern for his crew and the viability of his ship was valid.

Our ships house anywhere from about 25 to 5,000 naval personnel in cramped quarters depending on the size of the ship – e.g. mincraft versus aircraft carriers. When the TR was laid up we had one of only 11 attack carriers out of commission. Typically there are five or six carriers in port undergoing repairs, routine maintenance, refurbishment and other requirements. This leaves only five or six carriers available to cover the vast corners of the world with the forward deployment of our sea power. If one or more carriers are laid up due to serious health conditions, we might not be able to respond promptly to threats around the world.



The Pentagon has been working on plans to combat viruses within our armed forces, including vulnerable ships. Part of the solution to combat viruses is to restrict visits to foreign ports in countries that have virus outbreaks. We can't restrict the movement of personnel in home ports because of the need to refresh on land after deployments at sea. A possibility is to temporarily change home ports of ships for short periods to avoid virus hot spots, and if available and usable, utilize former facilities that were shut down or drawn down. Civilian shipyards and docking facilities might be able to be used temporarily. Even with virus vaccinations, the Navy might have to conduct routine testing of personnel on board ships, especially when they are ashore and come back aboard ships. Personnel infected with a virus would then be quarantined ashore. If sailors contract a virus while at sea the Navy has to have a separate space in each ship with negative pressure and must have adequate ventilators and PPE available.

All naval personnel must be required to receive COVID-19 vaccinations and other virus vaccinations when they become available, and they should not be allowed to opt-out. About 30 percent to 40 percent of our military are refusing to be vaccinated. Our national security hinges on the readiness of our military. Unfortunately, I do not see how our Navy can implement personnel distancing. We might be able to reduce the size of crews with more automation and possibly have less contact in working spaces but they would still have to work and eat in crowded settings. However, we still need a minimum complement to run the ship and man the aircraft on carriers.

The virus enemy is upon us, and it will require innovative adjustments within our armed forces, especially the Navy, to provide our country with a viable national security posture. Communist China accidentally unleashed a highly contagious and lethal virus on the world and it could try to use biological warfare against our military in the future. China is currently expanding its military, including its navy, and It has more naval vessels than the United States, especially frigates and destroyers. By 2025 China will have more aircraft carriers and amphibious assault ships in the Pacific than the United States. We need to evaluate our Naval strategy in the Pacific in light of the expansion and threat of China's navy.

**Donald Moskowitz Londonderry, New Hampshire**



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Miller and Midland Credit Management, Inc., were Defendants, requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree with interest and cost, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder, on the 8th day of June, 2021, at the hour of 10:00 a.m. or as soon thereafter as is possible, at the Wabash County Sheriff's Office at 79 West Main St., Wabash, IN 46992, the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Wabash County, Indiana. Part of the North half of the Southeast Quarter of Indian Reserve number 23, Township 27 North, Range 6 East, Wabash County, Indiana, being more particularly described as follows: Commencing at the southeast corner of Outlot number One (1) of Root's Addition, as recorded on pages 183-184 of Plat Book num-</p>
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## 0900

**TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE**

By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me directed from the Clerk of Circuit Court of Wabash County, Indiana, in Cause No. 85C01-2011-MF-761 wherein Beacon Credit Union was Plaintiff, and Barry B. Miller and Midland Credit Management, Inc., were Defendants, requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree with interest and cost, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder, on the 8th day of June, 2021, at the hour of 10:00 a.m. or as soon thereafter as is possible, at the Wabash County Sheriff's Office at 79 West Main St., Wabash, IN 46992, the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Wabash County, Indiana. Part of the North half of the Southeast Quarter of Indian Reserve number 23, Township 27 North, Range 6 East, Wabash County, Indiana, being more particularly described as follows: Commencing at the southeast corner of Outlot number One (1) of Root's Addition, as recorded on pages 183-184 of Plat Book number 2 in the records of the office of the Wabash County, Indiana Recorder; thence North 89 degrees 40 minutes 58 seconds West (assumed bearing), along the south line of said Root's Addition, 366.25 feet to the northwest corner of a tract of land now (or formerly) owned by Phillip R. Penn and Melanie Penn as recorded on page 109-110 of deed record 310 in the records of said Recorder's Office and the POINT OF BEGINNING, being marked by an iron rebar stake with a plastic cap stamped LS80040428; thence South 00 degrees 07 minutes 51 seconds East, along said Penn boundary, 168.91 feet to the northerly right of way line of Sivey Court and the point of curvature of a non-tangent curve to the right; thence northwesterly, along said right of way line and a curve having a radius of 25.00 feet, an arc length of 5.49 feet and subtended by a chord bearing South 46 degrees 37 minutes 06 seconds West, 5.48 feet to the point of reverse curvature of a curve to the left; thence westerly, along said right of way line, and a curve having a radius of 50.00 feet, an arc length of 89.32 feet and subtended by a chord bearing South 88 degrees 29 minutes 19 seconds West, 77.90 feet to an iron rebar stake with a plastic cap stamped LS80040428; thence North 52 degrees 41 minutes 10 seconds West, 33.82 feet to an iron rebar stake with a plastic cap stamped LS80040428; thence North 01 degrees 12 minutes 36 seconds West, 114.35 feet to an iron rebar stake with a plastic cap stamped LS80040428 on the southerly boundary of a tract of land now (or formerly) owned by Larry K. Miller et al as recorded on Document #2005R3898345 in the records of said Recorder's Office; thence South 89 degrees 40 minutes 58 seconds East, along said Miller boundary, 47.25 feet to an iron rebar stake with a plastic cap stamped LS80040428 on the easterly boundary of said Miller tract; thence North 01 degree 12 minutes 36 seconds West, along said Miller boundary, 33.00 feet to the southerly boundary of Outlot number Three (3) in said Root's Addition; thence South 89 degrees 40 minutes 58 seconds East, along the south line of said Root's Addition, 64.24 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING. Containing 0.36 of an acre, more or less.

Commonly known as 1032 & 1034 Sivey Ct., Wabash, IN 46992  
 Parcel No: 85-14-63-401-110.000-009  
 Together with rents, issues, income, and profits thereof, said sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisal laws.  
 "Subject to all liens, encumbrances and easements of record not otherwise extinguished in the proceedings known as Cause No. 85C01-2011-MF-761 in the Circuit Court of the County of Wabash, Indiana."

M. Josh Petruniw 29732-29  
 Downs Tandy & Petruniw, P.C.  
 99 West Canal St.  
 Wabash, IN 46992  
 Ryan Baker, Sheriff of Wabash County  
 Noble Township  
 1032 & 1034 Sivey Ct., Wabash, IN 46992  
 Street Address  
 SHERIFF FILE NO: 85-21-0009-SS  
 The Sheriff's Department does not warrant the accuracy of the street addressed published herein  
 SERVICE DIRECTED TO: Type of Service: Sheriff  
 Barry M. Miller, 1034 Sivey Ct., Wabash, IN 46992  
 SERVICE DIRECTED TO: Type of Service: First Class Mail  
 Midland Credit Management, Inc. First Class Mail c/o Corporation Service Co.  
 135 N. Pennsylvania St., Suite 1610  
 Indianapolis, IN 46204  
 NOTICE DOWNS TANDY & PETRUNIW, P.C. IS A DEBT COLLECTOR. THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT, AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.HSPAXLP.05/05/12,05/19/2021

## 0100

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0600REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

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3 BR, 1.5 BA, 1800 sqft, AC, \$700

2 BR, 1400 sqft, AC, \$650

1 BR UP, AC, \$450

2 BR UP, \$500

Renter pays utilities.  
App & lease req.  
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No Smoking

MARION  
3 BR 1620 W 10th Street;  
\$600/mo; tenant pays utilities

VAN BUREN  
3 BR 403 S First St; \$700/mo;  
tenant pays utilities

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0600REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

MARION

Mason Village

1 Bedroom Furnished Apt.  
Cable & Utilities included  
1 month free Internet  
Starting at \$165 a week.  
No Pets - 765-673-5000

MARION  
Studio 605 W 3rd St; \$80/wk;  
tenant pays electric

1 BR 215 E 3rd St; \$150/wk;  
basic utilities included

1 BR 616 S Boots St; \$80/wk;  
tenant pays electric

1 BR 210 S Branson St; \$100/wk;  
tenant pays electric

1 BR 613 W Spencer Ave;  
\$125/wk; basic utilities included

1 BR 1606 W Jeffras St; \$100/wk;  
tenant pays electric

1 BR 1020 W 3rd St; \$110/wk;  
basic utilities included

2 BR 215 E 3rd St; \$170/wk;  
basic utilities included

2 BR 509 E Bradford St;  
\$165-175/wk; basic utilities included

2 BR 605 W 3rd St; \$140/wk;  
basic utilities included

2 BR 616 S Boots St; \$90/wk;  
tenant pays electric

0600REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

2 BR 624 S Boots St; \$100/wk;  
basic utilities included

3 BR 616 S Boots St; \$125/wk;  
tenant pays electric

JONESOBORO  
1 BR 224 E 10th St; \$110/wk;  
tenant pays electric

2 BR 224 E 10th St; \$120/wk;  
tenant pays electric

MATTHEWS  
1 BR 135 E 10th St; \$100/wk;  
tenant pays electric & trash

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0700REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

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LIST YOUR GARAGE SALE

0900

NOTICE OF INTENT TO SELL BONDS

\$2,000,000  
GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OF 2021  
METROPOLITAN SCHOOL DISTRICT OF WABASH COUNTY

Upon not less than twenty-four (24) hours' notice given by the undersigned Secretary prior to the ninetieth day after this notice is first published, Metropolitan School District of Wabash County (the "School Corporation") will receive and consider bids for the purchase of the following described Bonds. Any person interested in submitting a bid for the Bonds may furnish in writing to the School Corporation c/o Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Incorporated, 201 N. Illinois Street, Suite 350, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204; (317) 808-7104, (317) 808-7137; or by email to jelizondo@stifel.com on or before 11:00 a.m. (Indiana Time) May 11, 2021, the person's name, address, and telephone number. Interested persons may also furnish an e-mail address. The undersigned Secretary will notify (or cause to be notified) each person so registered of the date and time bids will be received not less than twenty-four (24) hours before the date and time of sale. The notification shall be made by telephone at the number furnished by such person and also by e-mail, if an e-mail address has been received.

Notice is hereby given that electronic proposals will be received via PARITY®, in the manner described below, until the time and date specified in the Notice provided at least 24 hours prior to the sale, which is expected to be 11:00 a.m. (Indianapolis Time), on May 13, 2021. Bids may be submitted electronically via PARITY® pursuant to this Notice until the time specified in this Notice, but no bid will be received after the time for receiving bids specified above. To the extent any instructions or directions set forth in PARITY® conflict with this Notice, the terms of this Notice shall control. For further information about PARITY®, potential bidders may contact the School Corporation's advisor, Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Incorporated at (317) 808-7104 or PARITY® at (212) 849-5021.

At the time designated for the sale, the School Corporation will receive at the offices of Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Incorporated, 201 N. Illinois Street, Suite 350, Indianapolis, Indiana, and consider bids for the purchase of the following described Bonds:

Metropolitan School District of Wabash County General Obligation Bonds of 2021 (the "Bonds"), an Indiana political subdivision, in the principal amount of \$2,000,000; Fully registered form; Denomination \$5,000 and integral multiples thereof (or in such other denomination as requested by the winning bidder); Originally dated the date of delivery of the Bonds; Bearing interest at a rate or rates to be determined by bidding, payable on July 15, 2022, and semiannually thereafter; These Bonds will be initially issued in a Book Entry System (as defined in the Bond Resolution (as hereinafter defined)) unless otherwise requested by the winning bidder. Interest payable by check mailed one business day prior to the interest payment date or by wire transfer to depositories on the interest payment date to the person or depository in whose name each Bond is registered with U.S. Bank National Association on the fifteenth day immediately preceding such interest payment date; Maturing or subject to mandatory redemption on January 15 and July 15 beginning on July 15, 2023 through no later than January 15, 2024 on the dates and amounts as provided by the School Corporation prior to the sale.

As an alternative to PARITY®, bidders may submit a sealed bid or e-mail the bid electronically to the School Corporation's municipal advisor at the address described above until the time and on the date identified in the notice given by, or on behalf of the School Corporation, twenty-four hours prior to the sale of the Bonds. Upon completion of the bidding procedures described herein, the results of the sealed, non-electronic bids received shall be compared to the electronic bids received by the School Corporation.

The Bonds are not subject to optional redemption prior to maturity.

A bid may designate that a given maturity or maturities shall constitute a term bond, and the semi-annual amounts set forth in the schedule provided prior to the sale shall constitute the mandatory sinking fund redemption requirements for such term bond or bonds. For purposes of computing net interest cost, the mandatory redemption amounts shall be treated as maturing on the dates set forth in the schedule provided prior to the sale.

In the case of any redemption, 30 days' notice will be given by mail to the registered owners of the Bonds to be redeemed, and accrued interest will be paid to the date fixed for redemption. Interest on the Bonds so called for redemption will cease on the redemption date fixed in said notice if funds are available at the place of redemption to redeem the Bonds so called on the date fixed in said notice, or thereafter when presented for payment.

The Bonds have been designated as qualified tax-exempt obligations for purposes of Section 265(b)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code").

Each bid must be for all of the Bonds and must state the rate of interest which each maturity of the Bonds is to bear, stated in multiples of 1/8th, 1/20th or 1/100th of 1%. The maximum interest rate of the Bonds shall not exceed 5.00% per annum. All Bonds maturing on the same date shall bear the same rate. No bid for less than 99.00% of the face value of the Bonds will be considered. The Bonds will be awarded to the lowest responsible and responsive bidder who has submitted a bid in accordance herewith (the "Purchaser"). The Purchaser will be the one who offers the lowest net interest cost to the School Corporation, to be determined by computing the total interest on all of the Bonds to their maturities based upon the schedule provided by the School Corporation prior to the sale and deducting therefrom the premium bid, if any, and adding thereto the discount bid, if any. No conditional bids will be considered. The right is reserved to reject any and all bids. If an acceptable bid is not received for the Bonds on the date of sale hereinbefore fixed, the sale may be continued from day to day thereafter without further advertisement, during which time no bid which provides a higher net interest cost to the Corporation than the best bid received at the time of the advertised sale will be considered.

Each bid not submitted via PARITY® must be enclosed in a sealed envelope addressed to the School Corporation and marked on the outside "Metropolitan School District of Wabash County Bid for General Obligation Bonds of 2021. A good faith deposit ("Deposit") in the form of cash, wire transfer, or certified or cashier's check in the amount of \$20,000 payable to the order of the School Corporation is required to be submitted by the Purchaser not later than 3:30 p.m. (EST) on the next business day following the award. If such Deposit is not received by that time, the School Corporation may reject the bid. No interest on the Deposit will accrue to the Purchaser. The Deposit will be applied to the purchase price of the Bonds. In the event the Purchaser fails to honor its accepted bid, the Deposit will be retained by the School Corporation as liquidated damages.

The Purchaser shall make payment for such Bonds and accept delivery thereof within five days after being notified that the Bonds are ready for delivery, at such place in the City of Indianapolis, Indiana, as the Purchaser may designate, or at such other location mutually agreed to by the School Corporation and the Purchaser. The Bonds will be ready for delivery within 45 days after the date of sale. If the School Corporation fails to have the Bonds ready for delivery prior to the close of banking hours on the forty-fifth day after the date of sale, the Purchaser may secure the release of the bid upon request in writing, filed with the School Corporation. The Purchaser is expected to apply to a securities depository registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") to make such Bonds depository-eligible. If the Bonds are reoffered, at the time of delivery of the Bonds to the Purchaser, the Purchaser will be required to certify to the School Corporation the initial reoffering price to the public of a substantial amount of each maturity of the Bonds.

All provisions of the bid form and Preliminary Official Statement (as hereinafter defined) are incorporated herein. As set forth in the Preliminary Official Statement, the Purchaser agrees by submission of their bid to assist the School Corporation in establishing the issue price of the Bonds under the terms outlined therein and shall execute and deliver to the School Corporation at closing an "issue price" certificate, together with the supporting pricing wires or equivalent communications, with such modifications as may be appropriate or necessary, in the reasonable judgment of the Purchaser, the School Corporation and Ice Miller LLP ("Bond Counsel").

Bidders must comply with the rules of PARITY® (the "Rules") in addition to requirements of this Notice. To the extent there is a conflict between the Rules and this Notice, this Notice shall control. Bidders may change and submit bids as many times as they wish during the sale, but they may not withdraw a submitted bid. The last bid submitted by a bidder prior to the deadline for the receipt of bids will be compared to all other final bids to determine the winning bid. During the sale, no bidder will see any other bidder's bid, nor will they see the status of their bid relative to other bids (e.g., whether their bid is a leading bid).

It is anticipated that CUSIP identification numbers will be printed on the Bonds, but neither the failure to print such numbers on any Bond nor any error with respect thereto shall constitute cause for failure or refusal by the successful bidder therefor to accept delivery of and pay for the Bonds in accordance with the terms of its proposal. No CUSIP identification number shall be deemed to be a part of any Bond or a part of the contract evidenced thereby and no liability shall hereafter attach to the School Corporation or any of its officers or agents because of or on account of such numbers. All expenses in relation to the printing of CUSIP identification numbers on the Bonds shall be paid for by the School Corporation; provided, however, that the CUSIP Service Bureau charge for the assignment of said numbers shall be the responsibility of and shall be paid for by the Purchaser. The Purchaser will also be responsible for any other fees or expenses it incurs in connection with the resale of the Bonds.

The approving opinion of Bond Counsel, together with a transcript of the proceedings relating to the issuance of the Bonds and closing papers in the usual form showing no litigation questioning the validity of the Bonds, will be furnished to the successful bidder at the expense of the School Corporation.

The Bonds are being issued for the purpose of the renovation of and improvements to school facilities throughout the School Corporation, including roofing and interior improvements at Northfield Jr./Sr. High School and Southwood Jr./Sr. High School, and will be direct obligations of the School Corporation payable out of ad valorem taxes to be collected on the taxable property within the School Corporation; however, the School Corporation's collection of the levy may be limited by operation of I.C. 6-1.1-20.6, which provides taxpayers with tax credits for property taxes attributable to different classes of property in an amount that exceeds certain percentages of the gross assessed value of that property. The School Corporation is required by law to fully fund the payment of debt service on the Bonds in an amount sufficient to pay the debt service, regardless of any reduction in property tax collections due to the application of such tax credits. The School Corporation may not be able to levy or collect additional property taxes to make up this shortfall. The School Corporation is a school corporation organized pursuant to the provisions of I.C. 20-23; the Bonds will not be "private activity bonds" as defined in Section 141 of the Code.

The Bonds constitute an indebtedness only of the School Corporation. In the opinion of Bond Counsel, under the existing federal statutes, decisions, regulations and rulings, the interest on the Bonds is exempt from all income taxation in Indiana. In the opinion of Bond Counsel, under the existing federal statutes, decisions, regulations and rulings, the interest on the Bonds is excludable from gross income for purposes of federal income taxation.

The School Corporation has prepared a Preliminary Official Statement (the "Preliminary Official Statement") relating to the Bonds which it has deemed nearly final. A copy of the Preliminary Official Statement may be obtained from the School Corporation's advisor, Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Incorporated, 201 N. Illinois Street, Suite 350, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204, advisor to the School Corporation; or Mike Keaffaber, Superintendent of the School Corporation, 204 North 300 West, Wabash, Indiana 46992. If bids are submitted by mail, they should be addressed to the School Corporation c/o Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Incorporated, 201 N. Illinois Street, Suite 350, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204, advisor to the School Corporation.

Dated this 28th day of April, 2021.

HSPAXLP 04/28,05/05/2021

/s/ Secretary, Board of School Trustees  
Metropolitan School District of Wabash County

0900

STATE OF INDIANA  
COUNTY OF WABASH  
IN THE WABASH CIRCUIT COURT  
CAUSE NO: 85C01-2105-EU-000037  
IN RE THE UNSUPERVISED ESTATE OF:  
PRISCILLA ANN ELLIOT, Deceased  
NOTICE OF UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION  
Notice is hereby given that on the 3rd day of May, 2021, JOSEPH G. MCKENZIE and JAMES C. MCKENZIE were appointed co-personal representatives of the unsupervised estate of PRISCILLA ANN ELLIOT, deceased, who died on the 16th day of April, 2021.  
All persons having claims against this estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the Clerk of this Court within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or within nine (9) months after the decedent's death, whichever is earlier, or the claims will be forever barred.  
Dated at Wabash, Indiana, this 3rd day of May, 2021.  
/s/ Lori J. Draper (SEAL)  
LORI DRAPER, Clerk  
Wabash Circuit Court  
Attorney for the Estate:  
R. P. Fisher  
FISHER & IRELAND  
65 West Canal Street  
Wabash, Indiana 46992  
HSPAXLP.05/05,05/12/2021

0900

NOTICE OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS  
Notice is hereby given the taxpayers of Wabash County, Indiana, that the proper legal officers of the Wabash County Council will meet on Monday May 17, 2021 at 6:00 P.M. EST at the Wabash County Courthouse meeting room on the second floor to consider the following Additional Appropriation requests in excess of the budget for 2021.

General Fund Extension	
Personal Services	\$1,000.00
High School Intern	
General Fund Courthouse Complex	
Othe Services & Charges	\$275,000.00
Highway Garage Project	
Highway Supplies	\$240,000.00
Liquid Bituminous	

4/28/2021  
Wabash County Auditor  
Marcie Shepherd  
HSPAXLP.05/05/2021

0900

ADVERTISEMENT TO BID  
2021 ROAD RESURFACING PROJECT  
WABASH COUNTY, INDIANA  
Sealed proposals will be received by the County of Wabash through its Board of Commissioners, One West Hill Street, Suite 102, Wabash, IN 46992 in the Commissioners Room at 8:45 a.m. (local time) on Tuesday, June 1, 2021, and then will be publicly opened and read aloud. Any bids received later than the above time will be returned unopened.  
DESCRIPTION OF WORK: Work for which proposals are to be received is for 2021 Road Resurfacing Project  
BID DOCUMENTS: Copies of the Specifications and Contract Documents may be obtained at the office of Butler, Fairman and Seufert, 8450 Westfield Blvd., Suite 300, Indianapolis, IN 46240. Copies of the documents are available for examining at Board of Commissioners, One West Hill Street, Suite 102, Wabash, IN 46992 in the Commissioners Room, Dodge Data & Analytics, BxIndiana Construction League, and the office of Butler, Fairman and Seufert, 8450 Westfield Blvd., Suite 300, Indianapolis, IN 46240. Bidders are required to be a plan holder of record having obtained the contract documents through the office of the Engineer. Bids not meeting this requirement will be deemed non-responsive. Copies of the bid documents will be made available to bidders through one of the following methods:  
Hard copies for \$75.00 and digital copies for \$50.00 may be obtained at the office of the Engineer.  
Remittances are not refundable. Payment shall be by money order or check and shall be made payable to Butler, Fairman and Seufert, Inc. Plan holders must recognize that they will be notified of each addendum via e-mail and will be required to electronically download addendum content via file transfer protocol (FTP) regardless of initial document delivery method chosen.  
Bids shall be properly and completely executed on Bid Forms and in the order as identified and contained in the Contract Documents obtained from the offices of the Engineer as stated above. Each bid shall be accompanied by a fully completed Form No. 96 (latest revision) and acceptable Bid Security. Any bid not accompanied by the above-required items shall be deemed to be a non-responsive bid.  
No Bidder may withdraw his proposal within a period of 60 days following the date set for the receiving of bids. The Owner reserves the right to retain any and all bids for a period of not more than 60 days and said bid shall remain in full force and effect during said time. The Owner further reserves the right to waive informalities and to award the Contract to any Bidder all to the advantage of the County of Wabash or to reject all bids.  
BID SECURITY: Each bid shall be accompanied by an acceptable certified check made payable to the County of Wabash or an acceptable bid bond in the amount equal to 10% of the total bid price executed by an incorporated surety company in good standing and qualified to do business in the State of Indiana and whose name appears on the current Treasury Department Circular 570.  
BONDS: A Performance Bond and Payment Bond each in the amount of 100% of the Contract price will be required from the Contractor to whom the work is awarded.  
INDIANA REQUIREMENTS: Standard Questionnaire Form 96 (latest revision), filled out and signed, including attachment of Contractor's Financial Statement as stipulated in Section III.  
COUNTY WABASH  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
Jeff D. Dawes, Chairman  
Barry J. Eppley, Vice-Chairman  
Brian K. Hauptert, Member  
Bid Date: June 1, 2021  
HSPAXLP.05/05,05/12/2021



# Biden aims to vaccinate 70 percent of American adults by Fourth of July

By **ZEKE MILLER**  
and **JONATHAN LEMIRE**  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Joe Biden on Tuesday set a new vaccination goal to deliver at least one shot to 70 percent of adult Americans by July Fourth as he tackles the vexing problem of winning over the “doubters” and those unmotivated to get inoculated.

Demand for vaccines has dropped off markedly nationwide, with some states leaving more than half their available doses unordered. Aiming to make it easier to get shots, Biden called for states to make vaccines available on a walk-in basis and he will direct many pharmacies to do likewise.

His administration for the first time also is moving to shift doses from states with weaker demand to areas with stronger interest in the shots.

“You do need to get vaccinated,” Biden said from the White House. “Even if your chance of getting seriously ill is low, why take the risk? It could save your life or the lives of somebody you love.”

Biden’s goal equates to delivering at least the first shot to 181 million adults and fully vaccinating 160 million. It’s a tacit acknowledgment of the declining interest in shots.

Already more than 56 per-

cent of American adults have received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine and nearly 105 million are fully vaccinated. The U.S. is currently administering first doses at a rate of about 965,000 per day – half the rate of three weeks ago, but almost twice as fast as needed to meet Biden’s target.

“I’d like to get it 100 percent, but I think realistically we can get to that place between now and July Fourth,” Biden said of his new goal.

He said the administration would focus on three areas as it tries to ramp up the pace of vaccinations:

■ Adults who need more convincing to take the vaccine.

■ Those who have struggled or are in no hurry to obtain a shot.

■ Adolescents aged 12-15, once federal authorities approve vaccination for that age group.

Acknowledging that “the pace of vaccination is slowing,” Biden predicted the inoculation effort is “going to be harder” when it comes to convincing “doubters” of the need to get their shots.

He said the most effective argument to those people would be to protect those they love. “This is your choice: It’s life and death.”

Biden’s push comes as his administration has shifted

away from setting a target for the U.S. to reach “herd immunity,” instead focusing on delivering as many shots into arms as possible. Officials said Biden’s vaccination target would result in a significant reduction in COVID-19 cases heading into the summer.

To that end, the Biden administration is shifting the government’s focus toward expanding smaller and mobile vaccination clinics to deliver doses to harder-to-reach communities. It is also spending hundreds of millions of dollars to try to boost interest in vaccines through education campaigns and greater access to shots through community organizations that can help bring people to clinics.

Biden touted creative efforts to make it “easier and more fun” to get vaccinated, such as grocery stores offering discounts to shoppers who come to get shots and sports leagues that hold promotions to gets shots for their fans.

Ahead of the Food and Drug Administration’s expected authorization of the Pfizer vaccine for kids aged 12-15, the White House is developing plans to speed vaccinations for that age group. Biden urged states to administer at least one dose to adolescents by July Fourth and work to deliver doses to pediatricians’ offices and other trusted loca-

tions, with the aim of getting many of them fully vaccinated by the start of the next school year.

While younger people are at dramatically lower risk of serious complications from COVID-19, they have made up a larger share of new virus cases as a majority of U.S. adults have been at least partially vaccinated and as higher-risk activities like indoor dining and contact sports have resumed in most of the country.

Officials hope that extending vaccinations to teens – who could get the first dose in one location and the second elsewhere, if necessary – will further accelerate the nation’s reduced virus caseload and allow schools to reopen with minimal disruptions this fall.

The urgency to expand the pool of those getting the shots is rooted in hopes of stamping out the development of new variants that could emerge from unchecked outbreaks and helping the country further reopen by the symbolic moment of Independence Day, exactly two months away. Though White House officials privately acknowledge the steep challenge, Biden sounded an optimistic note.

“The light at the end of the tunnel is actually growing brighter and brighter,” Biden said.

# Hyundai recalls over 390K vehicles for possible engine fires

DETROIT (AP) — Hyundai is recalling more than 390,000 vehicles in the U.S. and Canada for two problems that can cause engine fires. In one recall, owners are being told to park their vehicles outdoors until repairs are made.

The largest recall covers more than 203,000 Santa Fe Sport SUVs from 2013 through 2015. Some are being recalled a second time. Brake fluid can leak into the anti-lock brake computer, causing an electrical short that can lead to fires. Owners should park outdoors and away from structures until the problem is fixed, according to documents posted Tuesday by the U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Dealers will replace a fuse and replace the computer if necessary. Owners will be notified in June.

The brake computer problem has caused 18 fires in the U.S., but no injuries, according to documents.

Hyundai says the recall “enhances the remedy” from one issued in September of 2020. The company says it kept investigating after the September recall and found that replacing the fuse would reduce the safety risk. “Hyundai is

conducting this new recall to ensure the safety of its customers,” the company said in a statement.

The other recall covers nearly 187,000 2019 and 2020 Elantras, and 2019 through 2021 Konas and Velosters. All have 2-liter engines.

The piston rings may not have been properly heat-treated, which can cause engine damage, oil leaks and possible fires. Hyundai says the rings can be too hard and can be chipped, scuffing the engine cylinder. The piston problem has caused five fires but no injuries, according to documents.

Dealers will inspect and replace the engine if necessary. They’ll also install piston noise sensing software. Owners will be notified in late June.

Engine failure and fire problems at Hyundai and affiliated Korean automaker Kia have plagued the companies for more than five years, affecting the owners of more than 8 million vehicles.

Last month Kia recalled over 147,000 2020 and 2021 Soul and Seltos SUVs due to the piston ring problem. The automaker said it had four reports of fires potentially related to the issue.

# As pandemic ebbs, an old fear is new again: mass shootings

By **GILLIAN FLACCUS**  
Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. — Brienne Smith was overjoyed to get an e-mail telling her to schedule a second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. Hours later, her relief was replaced by dread: a phone alert – another mass public shooting.

Before the pandemic, she would scan for the nearest exit in public places and routinely practiced active shooter drills at the company where she works. But after a year at home in the pandemic, those anxieties had faded. Until now.

“I haven’t been living in fear with COVID because I’m able to make educated decisions to keep myself safe,” says Smith, 21, who lives in St. Louis, Missouri. “But there’s no way I can make an educated decision about what to do to avoid a mass shooting. I’ve been at home for a year and I’m not as practiced at coping with that fear as I used to be.”

After a year of pandemic lockdowns, public mass shootings are back. For many, the fear of contracting an in-

visible virus is suddenly compounded by the forgotten yet more familiar fear of getting caught in a random act of violence.

A database compiled by The Associated Press, USA Today and Northeastern University that tracks mass killings – defined as four or more dead, not including the shooter – showed just two public mass shootings in 2020. Since Jan. 1, there have been at least 11.

Yet while mass shootings dropped out of the headlines, the guns never went away. Instead, even as the U.S. inches toward a post-pandemic future, guns and gun violence feel more embedded in the American psyche than ever before. The fear and isolation of the past year have worked their way into every aspect of the U.S. conversation on firearms, from gun ownership to inner-city violence to the erosion of faith in common institutions meant to keep us safe.

## More gun owners, and different

More than 21 million people completed a background

check to buy a gun last year, shattering all previous records, and a survey found that 40 percent identified as new gun owners – many of whom belong to demographics not normally associated with firearms, according to the National Shooting Sports Foundation, a firearm industry trade association. Purchases of guns by Black Americans increased 58 percent over 2019 and sales to Hispanics went up 46 percent, the group says.

Gun advocates tie this increase to pandemic anxiety and a loss of faith in the ability of police officers and government institutions at all levels to keep the public safe amid what at first was a little-understood, invisible menace. The eruption of sustained racial injustice protests after the police killing of George Floyd and calls to reduce police funding also contributed to more interest in firearms.

One of those buyers was Charles Blain, a 31-year-old Black man in Houston who purchased a Glock 43 handgun and a shotgun for the first

time last year. Blain, who describes himself as a conservative, says “pandemic-related unemployment crime” and repeated calls over the past year to release hundreds of jail inmates because of soaring COVID-19 infections pushed him to buy.

“I was always gun-friendly, but never really felt the need to own one myself,” says Blain, who founded Urban Reform, which helps underserved communities get involved in policy decisions that impact them.

The dramatic rise in firearms ownership represents a “tectonic shift in the conversation on guns,” says Mark Oliva, the foundation’s director of public affairs.

“For these people, gun ownership and gun control was until now a rhetorical debate. It was something you could discuss at a cocktail hour, but they had no skin in the game – and then they bought guns,” he says.

“It’s hard to put today’s gun owner into a box,” Oliva added.

Gun rights advocates feel good about what this could

mean for gun policy, with a broader swath of society seeing themselves when they hear about gun control efforts.

At the same time, gun-related homicides in mid-sized and big cities in America have skyrocketed during coronavirus, and criminologists believe the pandemic and the socioeconomic loss in many communities are factors driving that trend.

A study by the Council on Criminal Justice tracked a 30 percent increase in homicides overall in a sample of 34 U.S. cities in 2020 as well as an 8 percent increase in gun assaults.

“We’ve been trying to sound the alarm, but the No. 1 priority is COVID because nothing happens until COVID is fixed,” says Alex Piquero, a criminologist and professor at the University of Miami who serves on a COVID-19 commission for the Council on Criminal Justice. “This is the long-term symptom of the disease and ... the long-term mental health effects of this are going to be staggering.”

Portland, Oregon, a city of just over 650,000 people, is a

stark example.

Last year, there were more homicides than in any of the previous 26 years. This year, the city had tallied more than 340 shootings by late April – an average of about three a day – and was on track to blow past last year’s homicide record. The shootings are mostly impacting the city’s historically Black neighborhoods and lower-income areas where coronavirus has taken a heavy toll.

In one instance, a Black pastor involved in a coalition to address the violence had to hurry off a Zoom meeting about the crisis because gunfire erupted nearby. In March, a 14-year-old boy was seriously wounded by gunfire while he stood with friends near a soccer field.

“It’s the way that we all feel as people who have careers and homes and jobs and how emotionally unstable we’ve felt over this past year. Now imagine all that in people who are in hopeless situations,” says Sam Thompson, a Black resident who started a neighborhood group last summer to try to find solutions.

# U.S. report: Taliban will likely curtail Afghan women’s rights

By **NOMAAN MERCHANT**  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — U.S. intelligence agencies are warning that any gains in women’s rights in Afghanistan made in the last two decades will be at risk after U.S. troops withdraw later this year.

An unclassified report released Tuesday by the Director of National Intelligence says the Taliban remain “broadly consistent in its restrictive approach to women’s rights and would roll back much of the past two decades’ progress if the group regained national power.”

It’s the latest U.S. warning of the consequences of the Afghan withdrawal now underway, two decades after an American-led coalition toppled the Taliban. Gen. Mark Milley, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said Sunday that there would possibly be “some really dramatic, bad possible outcomes” for Afghan forces left on their own to counter the Taliban, but also noted, “We frankly don’t know yet.” And CIA Director William Burns told Congress in April that the American ability “to collect and act on threats will diminish.”

President Joe Biden has set a September deadline for U.S. forces to withdraw. While

Biden and his top officials have stressed that they will not end their engagement with Afghanistan or advocacy for human rights, the U.S. has also openly warned of gains for the Taliban, which has been locked in an insurgency with coalition and Afghan forces and already controls swaths throughout the country.

During the Taliban’s rule in the 1990s, women were largely confined to their homes, and girls had no access to education. Despite protestations from the U.S. and Europe, the Taliban brutally enforced its extreme version of Islamic Sharia law with little consequence. It was only after the U.S.-led invasion toppled the group that had hosted Osama bin Laden and his al-Qaida network that democratic governance and respect for human rights in Afghanistan became a Western priority.

Two-thirds of Afghanistan’s population is 25 years old or younger, with no memory of Taliban rule. While Afghanistan remains one of the world’s worst countries for women, particularly in rural areas where little has changed in generations, Afghan women now serve in Parliament, go to school and run businesses.

But there are persistent fears that, as the U.S. has negotiat-

ed with the Taliban on an exit from Afghanistan, women will be stripped of rights or once again be forced to wear the burqa, the all-encompassing veils that became a symbol of Taliban rule.

The Taliban last month issued a statement promising that women could “serve their society in the education, business, health and social fields while maintaining correct Islamic hijab,” referring to the Arabic word for veil.

But the report released Tuesday underscores American skepticism of those pledges.

“The Taliban has seen minimal leadership turnover, maintains inflexible negotiating positions, and enforces strict social constraints in areas that it already controls,” the report says. Any progress in women’s rights “probably owes more to external pressure than domestic support, suggesting it would be at risk after coalition withdrawal.”

Technology and international pressure could improve the treatment of women under the Taliban, analysts found. Afghanistan has about 27 million cellphone accounts, about two-thirds of its estimated population, which could potentially increase the world’s awareness of “extreme Taliban behavior,” the report says.

# America’s new normal: A degree hotter than two decades ago

By **SETH BORENSTEIN**  
AP Science Writer

America’s new normal temperature is a degree hotter than it was just two decades ago.

Scientists have long talked about climate change – hotter temperatures, changes in rain and snowfall and more extreme weather – being the “new normal.” Data released Tuesday by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration put hard figures on the cliché.

The new United States normal is not just hotter, but wetter in the eastern and central parts of the nation and considerably drier in the West than just a decade earlier.

Meteorologists calculate climate normals based on 30 years of data to limit the random swings of daily weather. It’s a standard set by the World Meteorological Organization. Every 10 years, NOAA updates normal for the country as a whole, states and cities – by year, month and season.

For the entire nation, the yearly normal temperature is now 53.3 degrees based on weather station data from 1991 to 2020, nearly half a degree warmer than a decade ago. Twenty years ago,

normal was 52.3 degrees based on data from 1971 to 2000. The average U.S. temperature for the 20th century was 52 degrees.

The new normal annual U.S. temperature is 1.7 degrees hotter than the first normal calculated for 1901 to 1930.

“Almost every place in the U.S. has warmed from the 1981 to 2010 normal to the 1991 to 2020 normal,” said Michael Palecki, NOAA’s normals project manager.

Fargo, North Dakota, where the new normal is a tenth of a degree cooler than the old one, is an exception, but more than 90 percent of the U.S. has warmer normal temperatures now than 10 years ago, Palecki said.

In Chicago and Asheville, North Carolina, the new yearly normal temperature jumped 1.5 degrees in a decade. Seattle, Atlanta, Boston and Phoenix had their normal annual temperature rise by at least half a degree in the last decade.

Charlottesville, Virginia, saw the biggest jump in normal temperatures among 739 major weather stations. Other large changes were in California, Texas, Virginia, Indiana, Arizona, Oregon, Arkansas, Maryland, Florida, North Carolina and Alas-

ka.

New normals are warmer because the burning of fossil fuels is making the last decade “a much hotter time period for much of the globe than the decades” before, said Cornell University climate scientist Natalie Mahowald.

For Phoenix, the biggest change in normal came in precipitation. The normal annual rainfall for Phoenix dropped 10 percent down to 7.2 inches. Rainfall in Los Angeles dropped 4.6 percent.

At the same time, Asheville saw a nearly 9 percent increase in rainfall, while New York City’s rainfall rose 6 percent. Seattle’s normal is 5 percent wetter than it used to be.

Climate scientists are split about how useful or misleading newly calculated normals are.

Mahowald and University of Oklahoma meteorology professor Jason Furtado said updating normal calculations helps city and regional planners to prepare for flooding and drought, farmers to decide what and when to plant, energy companies to meet changing demands and doctors to tackle public health issues arising from climate change.